

THE ST. JAMES'S GAZETTE

An Evening Review and Record of News.

No. 2098.—VOL. XIV.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1887.

PRICE ONE PENNY.

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DRURY LANE.

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

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** (49th time). Mr. William Terriss, Messrs. Garden, Maclean, Lyndal, Boleyn, Campbell, Russell, Wentworth, Travers, &c.; Mesdames Millward, Achurch, C. Jecks, Leigh, Brennan, Nelson, &c. At 7.15, **FAMILY JARS.**

PRINCE OF WALES'S.

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

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

GLOBE THEATRE.—Last three nights of **THE LODGERS.** On Monday, Feb. 28, will be produced a farce comedy, entitled **THE SNOWBALL**, by Sydney Grundy.

VAUDEVILLE.

VAUDEVILLE.—THIS EVENING, at 8.30, **SOPHIA** (239th time), by Robert Buchanan. Messrs. THOMAS THORNE, Carleton, Thorne, Farquhar, Mellish, Grove, Wheatman, and LEONARD BOYNE; Mesdames Larkin, Leclercq, Venne, Forsyth, and K. Rorke. At 7.45, **NEARLY SEVERED.** MATINEE every SATURDAY, at 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. Seats may be secured at the Box-office, open from 10 to 5, and at all libraries.

AVENUE.

AVENUE.—ROBINSON CRUSOE. TO-NIGHT, at 7.45. Burlesque, supported by Mr. Arthur Roberts, Miss Wadman, and powerful company. Doors open 7.30. **MORNING PERFORMANCE EVERY SATURDAY,** at 2.

SAVOY.

SAVOY.—R. D'O'LY CARTE, Proprietor and Manager.—EVERY EVENING, at 8.30, 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. Preceded, at 7.40, by **THE CARP.** Doors open 7.30. Box-office open from 9 A.M. till 11 P.M. Morning Performance of **RUDDIGORE** every SATURDAY, at 2.30.

HAYMARKET.

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

ST. JAMES'S.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Managers, Mr. HARRIS and Mr. KENDAL.—Last Three Nights of **THE HOBBY-HORSE.** THIS EVENING, at 8.30.

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.

OPERA COMIQUE.

OPERA COMIQUE.—Lessee and Manager, F. J. HARRIS.—Miss Kate Vaughan's Comedy Company.—THIS EVENING, at 8.15, **THE RIVALS.** In Act 2, Scene 3, a Gavotte will be danced. At 7.45 a farce, entitled **NED KNOWLES.** Doors open 7.15. MATINEE of **THE RIVALS** on SATURDAY next, at 2.15. Band of the "New Club" on this occasion.

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

PRINCESS'S.

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

OLYMPIC.

OLYMPIC.—MR. EDWARD TERRY'S SEASON.—At 9.15, **THE CHURCHWARDEN**; at 8, **THE TWO BLINDS**; at 8.25, **HOME RULE.** Last Weeks, owing to expiry of lease. MATINEE at 2.30 every SATURDAY.—Acting Manager, Mr. H. T. Brickwell.

CRITERION.

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

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. Pinner, entitled **DANDY DICK**, in which Messrs. Arthur Cecil, H. Eversfield, F. Kerr, E. Maurice, W. H. Denny, W. Lugg, and John Clayton; Misses Norreys, Laura Linden, Marie Lewes, and Mrs. John Wood will appear. 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.

HENGLERS, ARGVILL-STREET, OXFORD-CIRCUS.—LAST NIGHTS of Charles Hengler's Unique and Charming Entertainment. Each evening, **TURPIN'S RIDE TO YORK**, preceded by the Great Circus Troupe. Open at 7.15, commence at 7.45. Day performance every Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday. Open at 2, commence 2.30. The present season will terminate on Saturday, February 25th.

HENGLERS' GRAND CIRQUE.—THE LAST TWO MORNING PERFORMANCES of the present season, Thursday and Saturday, February 24th and 26th. Saturday Evening Next, Last Representations of all the charming and varied scenes of the present popular programme.

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1887.

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

COLLECTIVELY, perhaps, the House of Commons is jealous of its dignity, and anxious that it should remain majestic in the eyes of the nation. Individually, however, it is doubtful whether there are three-score members of the whole assembly who are really disturbed by the fact that the House is daily sinking in popular esteem. As long as the older of them live, to be a member of the House of Commons will still be an honourable thing, and still confer a certain if a diminishing amount of social distinction; while the younger generation of members are already looking to platform notoriety as, in these times, the true means of obtaining public consideration and official place.

This being the case, not many men in the "popular assembly" are likely to be pained over-much if they learn that even within the last month the House of Commons has fallen yet lower in public estimation, and that in a very distinct degree. But that is certainly the case; and it may be said further, with confidence, that as long as the present discussion goes on the disgust of the people with the People's Chamber must and will rapidly increase. Not only in its length, but in its character, the debate on the Address was generally felt as disgraceful to the House; and if when the debate came to an end the popular verdict on it could have been gathered, that verdict would certainly have been that the House of Commons had further forfeited its title to respect. The weary prolongation of chatter, mostly set in motion by conceit, was bad enough; but worse was the constant spurring up of mean but fiery little passions, far too much like those which contend in vestrydom for the control of contracts and the honours of beadledom. And we who stood without, watching these proceedings rather than listening to them, have not been allowed an opportunity of forgetting them awhile in the contemplation of "business done." After three weeks of debate on the Address, the House of Commons begins upon another period, variously estimated at from three weeks to five, which is to be devoted by honourable members to chattering over some means of restricting their own loquacity, their own craving for petty personal display, their own too wretched tendency to obstruct business for the sake of a particular fad or a general ambition to become notorious.

This, at any rate, is what the object of the new Rules of Procedure is said to be. To be sure, we sometimes hear that the need for these Rules—which are in themselves a humiliation to the House as well as a restriction on the freedom of debate and a danger to even large minorities of fair-minded men—arises from the vast increase of public business. But we know by recent example that, when the House of Commons chooses to set to work, it can and does dispose of business in as speedy and satisfactory a way as can be desired; and we also know that, as for legislation, there is no particular demand for it in the country, which would be only too glad to see a little less of that sort of thing, and a little more of sound and useful administration. No; the purpose of these rules, as described by those who propose them, as well as by almost everybody who takes part in their discussion, is that which we have set forth above; and the further the debate proceeds the more is it regretted by the world without that the correction of House of Commons vices should have to be made at the expense of its freedom and its dignity.

And that is not all that strikes the independent observer. Looking closely, he sees that what may be fairly called, perhaps, the general purpose of the new rules, is not their immediate purpose. Nobody doubts that the first object of the Government in proposing them is to tie down the Irish members while the debate on the new legislation for Ireland is going on. That the malicious obstructiveness of these gentlemen should be put an end to very few Englishmen deny. The only question is, How shall it be done. Now, the method that has been adopted may be the very best; but it is certainly open to objection, and a good case could be made out for another in preference to it. In the first place, it is doubtful whether the method adopted will succeed in the long run; and some of us are of opinion that if the representatives of Ireland are determined to destroy our parliamentary institutions in the pursuit of an object which we know to be little less than treasonable, it would be a more straightforward policy to deprive them altogether of the means of doing so than to gag them, little or much, while new laws are being made for the people they represent. Say what we may, there is something about this way of dealing with the case which leaves an uneasy feeling of doubt in many minds. And when we look to the way in which the English Opposition regards these rules, the spectacle is certainly not pleasant. We know that these gentlemen, from

Sir WILLIAM HARCOURT to Mr. CONYBEARE, do not at all desire that the Irish members should be shorn of any of their present privileges—till the Home Rule question has been thoroughly fought out, at any rate. Though they themselves could not well resort to obstructive tactics when the Irish legislation of the Government comes on for debate, they do not desire that their Parnellite comrades should be at all restricted in the use of them. And yet the Gladstonians too are all for the new Rules of Procedure, or are only discontented with them because those rules do not go far enough. Closure by bare majority, at short notice, and without any discretion on the part of the Speaker, is what they desire; and why? They are at no pains to leave us in the dark on that subject. They tell us plainly enough that they are looking for their own return to power at an early date; and they make it equally clear that when that day arrives the Conservative New Rules will be applied in a way that will rather astonish the Conservatives. If it is for use against Irish obstructionists and rebels that the Tory party wish these rules accepted, it is for use against the Conservatives that the English Radicals desire them, and want to make them stronger yet. This is all but avowed in so many words; and the fact that it is so avowed adds no pleasure to him who looks to the present and the future of the House of Commons.

THE WEALTH AND THE POVERTY OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

Two publications which have recently been issued relating to the position of the English clergy bring into strong relief the contrast between the wealth which is so freely poured into the Church from one quarter and the undeniable poverty and distress which exist in another. A comparison of Mr. Prothero's pamphlet, which was noticed in our columns about a fortnight ago, with the contents of the Official Year-Book of the Church, published last week, can hardly fail to raise a doubt in many minds whether the munificent liberality of the English laity and of such clergy as have anything to spare is always turned to the best account. There is no reason to suppose that the picture drawn by Mr. Prothero of the extremities to which the poorer class of curates and incumbents are reduced is exaggerated in the smallest degree. The figures presented to us in the Official Year-Book are no doubt equally trustworthy; and they show that during the last five-and-twenty years upwards of 81 millions have been voluntarily subscribed in this country towards what is called Church work. How much more than 81 millions has been given is not known. Returns have been received from only 80 per cent. of the parishes in England and Wales, and certain kinds of contributions have been designedly omitted. Making allowance for these uncounted sources of income, and remembering that the recorded contributions for the last year of the twenty-five—that is, 1885—reached to five millions, we shall hardly be far wrong if we estimate the whole amount paid in since 1860 at a hundred millions. This money invested at only 3 per cent. represents £120,000 a year. And when we read simultaneously, and, as it were, in parallel columns, of such munificent donations to the Church and such unparalleled distress among the clergy, we can hardly help fancying that there must be something wrong somewhere. These offerings, we must remember, are not the offspring of any sudden fit of enthusiasm or of any august and exceptional anniversary, which only open men's purse-strings for the moment. They represent the normal, sustained, and still increasing effort of the whole Anglican community—an effort made without ostentation and almost, it may be said, without publicity, and therefore to be counted on as all the more a permanent and established source of income.

How, then, have these large contributions been expended? On laudable and most desirable objects, without a doubt: the erection of new churches, schools, and parsonage-houses and the restoration and enlargement of old ones; the creation of new parishes and districts; the endowment of new benefices; the payment of additional curates; and the maintenance of home and foreign missions: all highly useful and necessary objects. But there are degrees of utility and degrees of necessity; and the question we have to ask ourselves is whether the most useful and the most necessary objects have always been selected. What is the good, it may be asked, of multiplying clergy who cannot live upon the incomes provided for them, and whose usefulness must be grievously diminished by the fierce fight with poverty which is their daily lot, and the sickening and ignoble cares which such a struggle involves? How can a man's heart be in his work when he is thinking every moment of his half-fed half-educated children, of his clamorous creditors, his squalid home, and the patient unrepining wife who has been robbed not only of all the refinements and innocent amusements to which she has always been accustomed, but of all the comforts and even necessities of life? How can such a man do justice to either his parish, his Church, or himself. It is impossible; and the question then arises whether some part of the money which is spent on enlarging the boundaries of the Church and increasing the number of her ministers might not be laid out to more

advantage in improving the position of those which she already has. Would not a rather smaller number released from the gripe of poverty, and able to devote their unimpaired energies to "Church work," be found more useful in the long run than a larger staff hampered by these painful difficulties? If the contributions of a single year such as the Official Year-Book represents were set aside for the purpose, the interest of the money would enable some substantial assistance to be given to a large number of clergy. Out of £120,000 a year twelve hundred clergymen could receive a hundred a year, two thousand four hundred could receive fifty pounds a year, and nearly five thousand could receive twenty-five pounds a year: no despicable sum, even this last, to an unfortunate man struggling to live with a family on £250 a year, which he doesn't get paid. Would not a capital of four millions be an excellent nucleus for a Victoria Bounty to start with? And if only one-fourth were deducted each year from the sum-total contributed to Church-work, we should have the whole in four years, and probably a good deal more.

NOTES.

Prince Bismarck's victory in the elections is almost as complete as he could desire. At least half the new Reichstag is pledged to vote for the Septennate, without counting the Centre party, which may or may not go the same way. The Conservatives and National Liberals together give Prince Bismarck a working majority. It is, however, by no means certain that this majority will work with him in all things. The Berlin correspondent of the *Times* is probably mistaken in supposing that the Imperial Government for the next three years can go its own way "independent of all Popes and Pearls of Meppen whatsoever." The question before the German people was not Prince Bismarck's general policy. They were told—by their greatest statesman and their greatest soldier—that to vote in favour of the Septennate meant Peace; to vote against it, War. Naturally, therefore, they recorded their votes for the Septennial Bill.

Another warning has been addressed by Russia to Germany. A semi-official note from St. Petersburg has been published in Vienna, in which it is declared that the "negotiations" at Constantinople (for the suppression of Bulgaria) have failed owing to English and Austrian intrigues. France, however, is said to have aided Russia; and the writer goes on to dwell on the closeness of Franco-Russian sympathy. "Russia," it is declared, "desires peace, and will abstain from contracting engagements with France." But, all the same, Germany is plainly reminded that when she attacks her western rival she had better be prepared to reckon with her neighbour on the east. In other words, the writer means to convey what has been clear enough to most observers all along. It would not suit the Russians that France should be reduced to powerlessness by Germany; and they will do their best to prevent it.

Mr. Philip Stanhope has given notice that he will ask, in reference to Mr. Goschen's recent speech, whether the Government, before addressing "words of remonstrance or words of encouragement to foreign Powers," will consult Parliament on the subject. Of course Mr. Stanhope will be answered in the negative. No Government could undertake to do anything of the kind, as Mr. Stanhope must know very well. But the question is one fresh little attempt on the part of the Labouchere party to make the world believe that Lord Salisbury's hands are tied by a factious Parliament, and so to bring his foreign policy to grief.

The Secessionists must be mortified by the results of the Canadian elections. One of the issues raised was that of Nova Scotian independence of the Dominion. It has been freely stated by some prominent Nova Scotians that the Province is thoroughly dissatisfied with the Union, and anxious to urge the British Government to repeal it. The elections show that this statement of Nova Scotian feeling is incorrect. The Unionists carry fifteen of the twenty-one seats in the province; and this is regarded as putting an end to the Secession agitation. On the whole the Conservative, or Government, party will be in a majority in the next Parliament, though Sir John Macdonald's following shows a considerable decrease. This is especially the case in Quebec. The vigorous suppression of the Riel rebellion, and the punishment of the chief rebel, has somewhat alienated a section of the French Canadians.

The letters of Mr. Charles Williams to Mr. Bright, and of the late special correspondent of the *Daily News* to that paper, completely dispose of the story of British cruelty after the Battle of Abou Klea, which Mr. Bright told at Birmingham on the authority of an English officer. The writers of these letters had ample opportunities of seeing all that was done. Some wounded Arabs were killed after the battle was over; but these were men who feigned death or helplessness in order to get an English soldier within reach, and then attempted to kill their unsuspecting victim. The letters afford good evidence that this danger was a very real one, and that the English soldiers behaved with great self-restraint under the provocation of these treacherous attacks. While

they rightly defended their own lives and those of others against the stratagem of wounded savages, they were not led away into anything like a general slaughter of the wounded. On the contrary, the English soldiers in some cases "risked their own lives to show some tenderness for their fallen foes." It is a pity that Mr. Bright was not a little less ready to accept the slanderous story of his informant.

There seems something about an earthquake which shakes people's nerves as no other catastrophe does. On the Californian coast, where earthquakes are as common as casual "shootings," the oldest inhabitants are panic-stricken by them. No wonder that the light-hearted holiday-makers and townsfolk at Nice were driven distracted by yesterday's shock. Sir Gavan Duffy's telegram gives a graphic picture of the general confusion. "The panic is not confined to any class of society or to any nationality. I have met judges, doctors, merchants, and parsons who share it—many of them sensible and solid Englishmen." But the solidest of Britons—even if a judge of the High Court—may be excused for "going to pieces" when he is tossed out of bed at five in the morning by finding his hotel rocking like a tree in a high wind; especially when the aforesaid Briton has retired to the Mediterranean Paradise to escape all vexations, climatic and other. Fortunately, though the earthquake was alarming, the injury it did was comparatively slight.

Sir Wilfrid Lawson made a speech at Mile-end yesterday which contained very few jokes, but which seems to have surpassed most of his late performances in recklessness and virulence. The democracy of England is a "miserable democracy" and is composed of "craven cowards" if it does not forthwith arise and forcibly suppress the liquor traffic throughout the country. It is an odd sort of courage which makes a man afraid to have a public-house in his neighbourhood, lest he should yield to the temptation of getting drunk. The drunkenness of this country is entirely owing (says Sir W. Lawson) to "aristocratic demoralization." All the poor men who get drunk are forced to do so by those rich and high-born tyrants under whose rule the country now groans. In his anxiety to establish a real despotism of the majority, instead of that aristocratic dominance which his imagination has conjured up, Sir Wilfrid appears to rely almost entirely on class prejudices, envy, and ignorance.

The loyal workmen of Amsterdam refuse to treat the demonstrations of Socialists against the Crown with silent contempt. The celebrations of the King's seventieth birthday were interrupted by the Socialists, and the anti-Socialists have taken their revenge by very active manifestations of hostility to the Socialist leaders. The accounts of what has taken place are somewhat conflicting; but it is plain that there has been riotous conduct on both sides, and that there was one fierce encounter in which the intervention of the police most likely saved the Socialists from a disastrous defeat by their opponents. It is a pity that the friends of order should resort to disorderly means for the enforcement of their views. At the same time the knowledge that the population of the town will not tamely allow the open preaching of sedition and disloyalty is likely to have a discouraging effect on the Socialists. If they had only the police to deal with, they could call them the hired minions of monarchs and capitalists; but the same description cannot well be applied to loyal workmen.

The latest Parnellite "hat" bids fair to be a great success. Up to Wednesday last there had been close on £1,000 dropped into it, though it had been only six days in circulation. The money is wanted to defray the law expenses of the Plan of Campaign traversers, and is still being freely subscribed all over the country. But the Catholic priests are, in number and amount, the largest contributors. Out of 408 acknowledgments of subscriptions in the *Freeman's Journal* from the 17th to the 23rd inst., eight were from Catholic Bishops—including Archbishops Walsh and Croke—and 177 from Catholic priests. Moreover, in some half-dozen instances, subscriptions from priests and people of different localities were acknowledged without specifying the number of the former. It may safely be assumed, therefore, that the addition of these unspecified contributors will bring the total of the clerical subscribers to the fund up to 200, or one-half the entire number. That is to say, in thus proving their practical sympathy with "organized embezzlement," the teachers and guardians of the faith and morals of the Roman Catholic Irish enormously outnumber in proportion the people who acknowledge their jurisdiction in these matters.

There is an obscure bit of news in the papers this morning that may perhaps turn out to be more important than it looks at first sight. The Irish Pig-Buyers' Association, a body of go-betweens who buy from the farmers on behalf of the wholesale provision dealers, has found that in bacon, as in other trades, the modern tendency is to extrude the middle-man. Alarmed at the prospect for the future, they have refused to buy on behalf of customers except on condition of receiving a commission on all business done directly with the farmers, as well as on that which passes through their hands. The merchants have declined to accede to this cool proposition, and the pig-buyers have appealed for support to the National League. This latter body has to a considerable extent assisted them, and has posted members in the neighbourhood of the merchants' offices to intercept the farmers on their way to deal. The more the boycott is used in non-agrarian quarrels, and the more the machinery of the National League is employed to favour one

section of the Irish lower and middle classes at the expense of another, the better; honest men are the sooner likely to come by their own, and the Irish people to grow disgusted with their tyrants.

Russia and China do not seem to be getting on very well together on the frontier. The civil authorities are mutually obstructive; and bands of Chinese brigands are constantly making raids into the territory of the Amour. In China a war with Russia, sooner or later, is regarded as inevitable; and for some time past the Government of Peking has been quietly making considerable military preparations. A St. Petersburg newspaper states that at all the strategical points upon the frontier, notably at those in the Manchu country, military colonies have been established; and that the Manchu military stations are strong enough to at once send 300,000 men into the field, one-third of whom are armed with European weapons. It is, of course, well understood at St. Petersburg that it is England which has instigated these preparations, and counter-precautions are to be taken immediately.

The other day a hall-portership in the Inner Temple was advertised vacant, and in answer there were over 1,000 applications. The salary was £150 a year with a small house. It is nothing new to hear that among the applicants were naval and military men, members of the learned professions, and many others who did not start life with a hall-portership as the goal of their ambition. The saddest thing about a case of this kind is that it must make deserving persons hopeless of applying for situations which they see advertised. No one, of course, can pretend to wade through a thousand letters in answer to an advertisement, and thus the shoal of applicants who have no earthly chance of the place spoil the prospects of other applicants whose claims would be worth considering. The post goes to some one of whom the advertiser knows a little personally—or to the writer of the first letter opened.

A man was yesterday charged at the Hammersmith Police Court with a somewhat unusual offence. The prisoner, it was stated, who was perfectly sober at the time, came to the Hammersmith Police Station late on Tuesday night and gave himself up as a deserter from the army. Search was immediately made in the *Gazette* for his name, but it could not be found; and nothing was discovered in his pockets but a few stones. He was therefore detained in custody—not for being a deserter, but because it was strongly suspected that he was not one. This suspicion proved to be correct. The prisoner frankly admitted to the magistrate that he had no claim whatever to be considered as a deserter. "What I did," he said, "was to get into prison, as I had nowhere to sleep." He was ultimately remanded, and has, therefore, for the moment found lodging and board gratis, and is probably far more comfortable than he would have been in the casual-ward of a workhouse. He deserves some indulgence. Destitute persons are far too apt to qualify themselves for admission to prison by mischievous acts, such as breaking windows etc.; whereas, if they followed the example of the poor man at Hammersmith and simply represented themselves as "deserters from the army," they would effect their object without injury to any one.

One of our Paris correspondents writes:—You published a short time ago some interesting particulars, furnished by the debate in the Chamber, with regard to the lottery craze in France; but the complaints which have since been made by the promoters of the lottery by means of which they hoped to obtain the funds for building a museum of the decorative arts seem to show that the public are not to be inveigled into these raffles so easily as their organizers evidently anticipated. In this particular instance the promoters of the lottery candidly admit that a sum of £560,000 was to be raised by 1 fr. tickets, and that out of this £400,000 was to be kept for the museum, leaving only £160,000 for the prizes and all the expenses. No wonder that the tickets did not "go off," and that after dragging on for nearly three years they had to be sold at a discount of over 50 per cent. In the end two million tickets failed to find purchasers at any price, and the general expenses swallowed up more than half of the nominal capital. Nor is this the only instance in which the commission paid on the tickets has exceeded 50 per cent.; and it is amusing to find that since the establishment of what Republicans call "the true Republic" in 1878 forty lotteries have been authorized by the Government, or more than were allowed to issue during just twice the period of imperial corruption.

Mr. Irving performed a remarkable feat as well as a very kindly action in the reading of "Hamlet" which he gave last night for the benefit of the Birkbeck Institute. The reading was practically a recitation; for Mr. Irving seems to know the other parts in the play almost as well as he knows the one which he has played so often. To most of these subordinate characters the actor gave marked individuality, and this without the slightest apparent effort. The several humours of Polonius, of the Grave-digger, and of Osric were brought out with a light precision of touch such as no other tragedian of our day could hope to exhibit. Of the rendering of the title-role there is, of course, little more to say than has often been said before. One point, however, may be noted, and that is the rare pathos thrown by Mr. Irving into his delivery of the soliloquy beginning, "O, that this too too solid flesh would melt!" Perhaps it was

because the comparative smallness of the auditorium enabled him to employ softer tones of voice than usual that he gave such exceptionally tender significance to Hamlet's passionate expression of filial devotion. Even with the excision of the fourth act and of other passages, the reading of this long tragedy naturally extended beyond the two hours originally assigned to it. But the members of the Birkbeck would have been ungrateful and unappreciative indeed if they had not willingly waited till its close. The applause was, as it deserved to be, of the heartiest; and the presence of the Lyceum Ophelia amongst the audience seemed to be greeted as a compensation for the omission of Ophelia's principal scenes.

ENGLISH AND FOREIGN COMPETITION IN THE EAST.

A GENTLEMAN, who lately represented an important English manufacturing firm in China and Japan, sends us the following observations; which seem to us to be well deserving of the attention of our public men:—

The extraordinary fierceness of European competition in the Far East has resulted in some remarkable but peculiar successes in the securing of important business by French and German merchants and manufacturers. Instance upon instance has been accumulated to show that our rivals have been bent on winning success either by fair means or by foul. That they owe no small measure of their triumph to the energy of their merchants and the adaptability of their manufacturers, few who have studied the subject would care to deny. If that were all, there would be little left for English traders to do but to put their shoulder to the wheel more vigorously, or else succumb to nature's inevitable law—

That he shall take who hath the power,
And he shall keep who can.

These are not all the causes, however; they may be briefly enumerated as State-aided enterprise, diplomatic pressure, and corrupt influence. The first of these being the inevitable sequence of a protective policy, time alone will determine whether it can stand against the naturally healthy action of a free-trade system.

It is, however, on the subject of diplomatic pressure that something may be said and done. Few people who have not been in actual contact with the facts, know to how great an extent Foreign Ministers in such countries as China and Japan exert pressure in favour of their countrymen, especially in order to acquire those large orders for Governmental supplies which the generally superior manufacturing facilities of this country have hitherto secured. It is no secret that not long since, during certain negotiations at Peking, the German Minister made concessions to his countrymen the price of his acquiescence with Chinese wishes. It is strongly suspected that a very important contract was lately given to the French syndicate at Tientsin as a *quid pro quo* for the consent of the French Government to the removal of the Roman Catholic Cathedral in the precincts of the palace at Peking. It is well known that at the present moment the German Minister at Tokio takes advantage of the protracted negotiations over the treaty revisions to side with the Japanese against his colleagues on minor points, afterwards receiving general and particular favours for his countrymen. These are instances out of many. In numerous cases, even when there is no *quid pro quo* offered, the Ministers will always exert their official influence, even to the extent of touting for particular contracts for particular individuals.

In this country it is a common belief and subject of conversation that our Consuls and Ministers are wanting in energy or else above their work. Such is not the case, however—at least, not in the majority of instances. English officials are energetic, and their probity of character and social position almost universally secure for them greater respect than their foreign colleagues enjoy. An English official has, however, his hands tied in many ways. In the first place, he does not care to forfeit the strength of his position by undue and constant interference; secondly, he is debarred—and rightly so—from exerting preferential influence in favour of particular firms. Thirdly, unlike a German official, who has only his own department to account to, he is answerable to Parliament through the Foreign Office, and we know how Ministers are "heckled," rightly or wrongly, by members of Parliament and by public opinion. *Trop de zèle* is, therefore, sure to recoil, however unjustly, on the unfortunate British official abroad. Making all allowances, however, for the difficulties of the position, I am distinctly of opinion that our Foreign Office is not sufficiently alive to the serious nature of the situation. It is thought that the difficulty is but temporary, that it will remedy itself, that English energy will reassert its strength, and so forth. It has yet to be learned, however, that trade lost is easily regained, or that a difficulty can be combated less easily at the outset than later on; in any case "while the grass is growing the steed is starving." Our Government should strengthen the hands of its servants abroad by directing them to use all the influence they legitimately can, and it should support them steadfastly against all attacks on their action, whether coming from within or without the camp. They should be instructed to point out that the British trader only asks for a "fair field and no favour," and to ask whether such conditions are not more favourable to countries like China and Japan than the close transactions which foreign officials seek to secure for their countrymen. They should, if necessary, be empowered to point out that preference to other countries on unequal conditions can only be looked on as unfriendly to the British nation, and therefore displeasing to the British Government.

Our Government should also show more attention to Japanese and Chinese visiting England. There has been much improvement in this direction, no doubt; but take the reception recently accorded in Germany to Prince Komatsu with that which he received in England. In Germany the people, the Ministers, and the Court work with one accord to create the most favourable impression on such visitors of importance. It is a matter of the first necessity that inducements should be offered to the numerous Japanese and Chinese who travel, not only to visit this country but to devote the

major portion of their time and studies to England. A carefully considered scheme should, therefore, be drawn up to carry this into effect; and our Consuls and Ministers should act in conformity therewith. The value of this will be better understood by a fact recently pointed out by an able correspondent of the *London and China Telegraph*—namely, that Japanese visiting other countries return to their own land deeply imbued with the racial likes and dislikes as well as with the customs of the country in which they have chiefly been resident. Of this the Germans seem to be thoroughly aware; and their efforts are largely directed to secure that as large a number as possible of Japanese students should come to Germany, and that a large proportion of the Europeans required as professors, engineers, teachers, etc., in Japan, should be German.

Another point which can be well impressed on the Japanese and Chinese Governments by our officials is that the command of the seas possessed by England, and her insular position rendering her less exposed to the frequency of war than is the case with her Continental neighbours, is some guarantee for the prompt and due execution of important Government orders. Who can doubt that, when the war-cloud now hanging over the Continent breaks, important contracts for vessels, artillery, etc., placed in Germany or France will be interfered with? The pressing necessities of war will cause them to lay their hands on all that is immediately available, and the corresponding inconvenience may prove very troublesome to China and Japan.

I trust that the prolixity of this letter may be excused by the importance of its subject.

ENGLISH AS SHE IS CODED.

THE practice of using code-words in place of ordinary language for telegrams has now become so general, and is found so convenient, that its extension may be confidently expected. Here, indeed, we may have the germ of a new language; a language which dispenses at once with an antiquated grammar, an arbitrary orthography, and a redundant vocabulary; which puts a sentence into a single word; and which condenses without obscuring the expression of the most complicated ideas. Moreover, it offers an easy solution of the great problem of a universal tongue.

Take up the "Unicode," published by Messrs. Cassell and Company, and it will be seen that the useful little book contains some hundreds of phrases in common use, and expresses each of them by a Latin word. Now these Latin words would be just as handy in writing and speaking as in telegraphing. For example: in asking a friend to dine with you on Monday, you simply take him by the hand and say "Complano?" to which, if he accepts, he will reply "Coarcto" and the affair is concluded; or, if he is compelled to decline, he has nothing to do but to say regretfully "Incedo."

You wish your friends a "happy new year" by the one word "Dimidius;" you are glad to hear from them when you say "Diallage." You say "Salignus," and they understand that they are to accept your best thanks. One of them has an addition to his family, and by one word, "Rigide," you pour forth your sympathy with him in his affliction. How good to get the birthday greetings over with the simple exclamation "Nardinus," or "Many happy returns of the day?" And whose sick bed would not be softened by the gentle inquiry, "Palpandum?"—that is, "What progress are you making?" No code has yet been compiled for the use of diffident wooers, but one might almost be adapted from the book before us. "Will you accept my offer?" might be expressed by "Accredo?" while in reply would come the shy and tender "Obsono" or the cruel "Obstipus." Or the maiden might want to tell you that your offer comes too late: her answer then would be a softly whispered "Obstiti."

The business part of the matrimonial transaction is amply provided for. Here is a conversation between A, the suitor, and B, the father of the girl:—

- A: Acquiro? ("What allowance will you make?")
 B: Nycteris. ("Money is very scarce.")
 A: Atrocium. ("It is of great consequence.")
 B: Acredula? ("What allowance would you propose?")
 A: Acumen. ("I am entirely in your hands.")
 B: Agilitas. ("I will arrange everything to your satisfaction.")

Thus half a dozen words suffice to bring a somewhat delicate business to a conclusion. The relations between debtor and creditor are capable of not less happy solution by the same means. The former meets the latter and says "Acapnon?" ("Why have you not acknowledged receipt of letter?") He replies, "Obarmo" ("No money; in great difficulties"). "Olivetum?" ("How do you propose to pay?") asks the creditor. "Oletum, olaris" ("Cannot pay at present; will pay by instalments") replies the poor debtor; and the creditor, not being a hard man, responds, "Acclamo;" or, if he is determined on having his pound of flesh, "Maligne" ("A writ will be served").

Much time might be saved by the adoption of the new language in parliamentary questions and answers. "Corculus March" would mean that the estimates could not be brought in before March. In declining to accept a proposal, the leader of the House would simply say "Cepphus;" though "Cepurica" would be a little less peremptory. Some one questions Mr. Raikes about a lost letter. He replies, "Sir, impensus," signifying that he can find no trace of it. Or the Home Secretary is asked to produce a certain correspondence, and he informs the House that it can be produced without inconvenience by merely saying, "Impositio." It is estimated that at least five-sevenths of the time of Parliament would be saved by this simple plan. Men like Sir Wilfrid Lawson, Sir George Campbell, and Mr. Henry Richard might say in one breath all that they have ever had to say in their lives. At a moderate calculation, the work

of half an hour might be compressed into half a minute; and the parliamentary verbatim reports would then read thus:—

DEBATE ON THE ADDRESS.

Mr. SEXTON (resuming the debate): Saxifer pulmo a half. ("There ought to be a reduction of rent by at least a half.")

Mr. BLANE: Oceanus. ("It will not be paid.")

Mr. BIGGAR: Obsutus. ("The opportunity has gone by.")

Mr. MORLEY: Government inauguro. ("The Government should investigate into the matter immediately.")

Mr. GLADSTONE: Non assimulo. ("Do not compromise on any terms.")

And so on. But though we mention Mr. Gladstone, it should be added that Unolingo, as we might call the new tongue, is of no use to people who use language as an instrument for concealing their thoughts. Clearness and precision of meaning are its essential qualities.

The sorrows of life, too, would be greatly softened by the use of the new language. It is harrowing to have to tell your friend who has broken his leg that "amputation is considered necessary:" much better say "Dionysia." Who would be so brutal as to tell a wife that "her husband died to-day," when he could break the news with "Carmino"? Again, the unpleasant announcement has to be made that "the will cannot be found." One word—"Cellula"—does it. You are deputed to inform a client that a bankruptcy petition has been filed against him. After salutations, you quietly remark "Amissio!" and depart; or "Ammium," if you wish to hurt his feelings.

These examples are confined to phrases already codified; but the system might be indefinitely extended. The whole of the classics, reduced into Unolingo, might be carried in the waistcoat pocket. Trials at law that now occupy weeks might be got through in as many hours, and a whole debate on the Address might be reported in three or four pages of the *Times*.

A SAD BUSINESS.

(COMMUNICATED BY A DISTRESSED YOUNG GENTLEMAN.)

WITHOUT mentioning names, I should like to put my case in such a way that her friends will understand who the writer is, and see that in very painful circumstances I did what was best for both parties. We were to have been married on May-day, and, despite her many failings, I loved her not less truly than, to do her justice, she loved me. When I am not on the watch I catch myself loving her still, though no one could feel more keenly than I do the weakness of going on loving a girl who says that 7 and 12 make 22. That was what we broke off the match about—a match that could never have been happy.

She, I hear, has suffered terribly; but it has also been a great blow to me. Thinking the matter over, and putting it for convenience of reasoning into syllogistic form, I see that I had been worshipping an ideal woman, and that it was far better to end an engagement formed from fallacious premises. Yet there are times when I almost wish that we had avoided arithmetic altogether, and got married and risked it. It would be an entire mistake to think that, though the shock came suddenly, this was because I had never tried her at addition before. I had done so several times when I was in my lightest and brightest moods; and, incomprehensible though it now seems, I believe her blunders pleased me. Ah, how trivial to tell are the sports of lovers, yet how fascinating at the moment, how sad to remember when all is over! Do I dream when I recall a time when I considered her the most delightfully wonderful girl in the world because, after a minute's calculation, she said that 8 and 9 were 15? Still more humiliating to my self-esteem is the recollection of another evening. She was peculiarly fascinating that night, and in an imperious mood; for though I told her she was wrong, she insisted that if you take 11 from 17 there are 4 over. As a rule, I did not allow her to contradict me, thinking it wise that my word should be accepted as conclusive; but on this occasion I must have encouraged her, for she not only stuck to her point, but made me "promise that 11 from 17 does make 4." I could plunge my hand into a hedge of prickles now to think that I ever made such a promise. However, the awakening has been so bitter that I am, perhaps, already punished.

The shock came three weeks ago. I had been for a long walk in the country, when it came on to rain unexpectedly. Having no umbrella with me, I took shelter in the nearest habitation, which happened to be a country school. I sat there while the teacher proceeded with his work. He was testing the children in oral arithmetic. Not one of them, I should say, was more than twelve years of age, and many were much younger. Without almost a moment's reflection they could add together 2,421, 4,042, and 8,533, or subtract 251 from 397. One child of about nine he severely chided because she was one figure wrong in her addition. Then the full force of what I was about to do, the disgrace of it, stared me for the first time in the face, and the scales fell from my eyes. I hurried to the little station and took the first train back to London. Her friends, I have heard, say that I was precipitate; but that is not so. Violently agitated, though perhaps outwardly cool, I went to her at once. I was fondly hoping against hope that what seemed ignorance was merely playfulness. Very seriously I took her aside. She saw that I was in no jesting mood when I implored her, as she loved me, to abandon all trifling. She faltered and clutched the table for support. "7 and 12?" I asked solemnly, giving her a last chance. She thought it over for a time, her eyes filling with tears. Then she said, confidently, "22." I took my hat and staggered into the street as manfully as I could. But the light of my life had gone out.

We returned each other's letters and presents; and though, as will be seen, there was no quarrel, I do not now visit at her parents' house. She could henceforth have comparatively little pleasure in my society, and it is only by avoiding the sight of her that I can reason out the wisdom of my

action. So powerful as well as pitiable a thing is sentiment that twenty times a day I feel like starting from my stool to hurry to her and make it up. Yet nothing can be plainer to me than that I have had a merciful escape. It is a disappointment, however, to find that the thousand and one writers who have said that work is the great cure for disappointment and that we have no time for regrets when we are busy, are all wrong. It is while I am hardest at work that I feel these sudden impulses toward her. I drive them from me by laying down my pen and taking to serious thought. However anxious one may be to make allowances, it is ridiculous for a man to go on thinking a certain girl the most delightful of her sex, when she would fail for the second standard. I don't seek to defend myself for my blind and culpable folly. The worst of it is that I have lost all faith in my own judgment. I thought her clever; I told my parents she was clever; but I cannot remember at the time caring much whether she was so or not. I seem to have taken that for granted. What I rejoiced in most was her personal beauty, her charm of manner, her womanliness, even her pretty way of asking me to button her gloves. But, of course, I have no longer any pleasure in recalling these things; for I see that they could only have existed in my imagination. If I was deceived in the cleverness, I was doubtless deceived in the beauty too—indeed, I must have been so, for it is generally admitted that the face reflects the mind. It is idle to think that a girl who could not add four and twelve had a mind to reflect. The reader, being an unprejudiced person, sees this clearly enough. He does not see it more clearly than I do at this moment; but his position is a happier one than mine, for I do not know how long mine will last. Yesterday, when I began to write this explanation, I saw the prudence of the course I have adopted as distinctly as I do now. But between whiles there was a sudden change, for which I, as a reasonable being, find it impossible to account. I was coming home from the office when I saw her coming toward me. I trembled all over, and felt that I could not pass her. With an infatuation that shames me of my existence, I forgot everything when I noticed that her eyes were red, and I would have given her another chance at 7 and 12 had not her father been with her. Before I got home, however, I had reasoned it all over again and seen that matrimony in the circumstances would have been a hollow mockery.

MODERN HINDOOISM.*

THIS work is a valuable contribution to the study of a very difficult subject. Mr. Wilkins—a member of the London Missionary Society, who shows himself at every page an ardent though not a bigoted Christian—is naturally disposed to give full prominence to the practical evils that are the result of superstitious beliefs and practices, and to the pernicious moral influence exercised by fanatical taskmasters who touch not with their little fingers the burthens they lay on their pathetically obedient disciples. On the other hand, it is to the credit of our author's intelligence, as well as of his impartiality, that he does not confound with the ordinary Kulin Brahman, or family Gosain or guru, those disinterested and high-minded teachers who so constantly revive and refresh the spiritual liberty that is the unfailing motive and aim of Indian religion: the pure stream flowing freely, sometimes under, sometimes above, the rubbish accumulated by ignorant superstition and interested fanaticism.

"With the Hindoo," says Mr. Wilkins very truly in his preface, "religion is not a thing for times and seasons only; it professes to regulate his life in all its many relations. Religion orders ceremonies to be performed on behalf of a man before he is born, and gives instructions to his descendants which they must follow in order that his happiness may be secured after death. It regulates the ceremonies attendant on his birth, his early training, his food and its cooking, his style of dress and its manufacture, his employment, marriage, amusements—his whole life from before his birth until generations after his death. To treat, then, of the ordinary life of the Hindoo is to describe the Hindoo religion." But the Hindoo religion is not a compact body of belief, nor is it a consistent system of formal rites and ceremonies. Dogmas and observances differ widely amongst the numerous sects; and even Hindoos of the same sect follow distinct forms of worship in different parts of India. Yet there is a bond of union embracing these diversities, and justifying the description of Hindooism as a religious system. At the heart of every form of this faith lies the mystical Pantheism that is the sacred fount of inspiration for the Indian religious sentiment: the belief in the divine soul of the universe as the one reality, and the conviction that personal existence and the moving brightly coloured spectacle afforded by material existence are literally "such stuff as dreams are made of." The two aspects of Hindooism—the spiritual aspect and the formal aspect—are but modifications of this same faith. The fervent idealism that so constantly leads men to fling up all worldly interests and to devote their lives to spiritual things is the result of the conviction, that in the life of intelligence only can men be said to live at all, to enjoy freedom, and to taste security and peace. On the other hand, the propitiatory sacrifices that are made to accompany every step in the worldly life are proofs of the consciousness of the perils and pains that beset the path of those who, blinded by their senses and bound by personal affections and desires, are regarded as the "subjects of Yama, the King of Death." Very pathetic are some of the customs and superstitions that testify to this distrust of life. What can be more touching, for instance, than the custom that prevails amongst mothers of choosing for their children some such name as "Dukhi" (pain), "Haron" (the lost one), "Tin Kauri" (three cowny shells); so that Yama, the King of Death, when he stalks by and asks "Who goes there?" may think the wearers of such names unworthy of his notice? It is a singular fact that, whilst in the ancient scriptures all the deities of the Hindoo Pantheon are described as beneficent, the modern ritual by which they are honoured

expresses the same terror and distrust that characterize the Hindoo's view of the mortal conditions over which they rule. Thus, Mahadeva, the generous god, who brought the sacred rivers down from heaven to refresh the earth, is given for wife the bloodthirsty Durga, who receives more homage than her lord. Even Krishna, the over-cheerful and hot-hearted deity who is the most benign of all Vishnu's numerous incarnations, worshipped as Hari, becomes an angry god, who needs to be propitiated by rigorous self-mortifications and penances; while Jaganatha, the mild and genial deity, with his universal charity and love towards men, is transformed into an Indian Moloch by the fanatics who throw themselves beneath his car.

The truth is, fear is the sentiment expressed by the Hindoo ritual: fear of the hidden peril to the blind and fettered spirit, astray amidst the tangled paths of a world not its own. It is not only or chiefly the fear of death, or the sense of the nearness of death to the objects of his affection, that makes the Hindoo describe personal existence as the "domain of impermanency." It is, also, that he cannot escape from the belief that "all forms are unreal" and that "all created things are of the womb of pain." It is difficult for the average Englishman, with his strong unquestioning belief in the evidence afforded by his senses and his conviction that the real and important side of life is the positive and practical side, to understand the view of life taken by one who never entirely trusts his senses, and who regards the positive and practical side of things as the unreal side, or at any rate as the least important. It is still more difficult for the average Englishman, who carries his practical views even into religious questions, to appreciate the influence exercised by spiritual liberators who proclaim no distinct doctrine and hold out no promises of future happiness to their followers, but who preach deliverance of the soul from all material bondage. Nevertheless, this state of freedom from strong personal emotion, and of absorption in spiritual interests and aims, is the Indian's highest ideal of happiness and peace. The personal life never gives him full satisfaction; inasmuch as he moves in it conscious, as Emerson has it, of "an innavigable sea that washes always with silent waves between him and the things he aims at and converses with." But in the life of contemplation and thought he loses this sense of bondage and dissatisfaction.

To conquer this spiritual freedom for themselves and their fellow-men, has been the aim of all Indian religious reformers from the time of Gotama Buddha downwards. By far the most interesting chapters in the present volume describe the careers of some of these spiritual teachers, and the incidents of their lives preserved by popular traditions. Throughout these histories we have two points of resemblance: in every case the reformer has attempted to revive the spiritual temper of religion, and to oppose superstitious formalities, degrading rites, and inhuman caste restrictions. In every case he has succeeded during his lifetime; but only to pay the penalty of the enthusiasm he has stirred and the influence he has obtained by falling into the hands of myth-makers and miracle-mongers after his death. Amongst the most interesting of these reformers we may name Chaitanya; whose history, half mystical half real, has been recorded by one of his disciples in Bengali. The first incident narrated of him is that, as a youth, he was reproved for standing in an unclean place, and advised to purify himself by bathing in the sacred river; when he replied that all places were alike holy: a rather difficult doctrine. All men, too, in Chaitanya's estimation, were capable of holiness; which no doubt is theoretically tenable. He admitted men of all castes to be his followers; and after 400 years a relic of his influence still survives at Puri, where, following a custom established by him, men of all castes eat together within the enclosure of Jaganatha's Temple: even Brahmans will carry away with them to their homes the food that has been cooked by men of low caste, whose touch beyond the precincts of the temple would be considered defiling. But Chaitanya, with all his freedom from superstition, has not escaped the common fate, and is now one of Superstition's favourites!

"The 'Historical Basis of Modern Europe.'" By Archibald Weir, M.A. (Swan Sonnenschein, Lowrey, and Co.) Here is the concentrated essence of the history of things in general, at home and abroad, from 1760 to 1815: packed into some 600 pages of tolerably close print, from which a patient reader will be sure to extract a large amount of information. The careless and the easily bored are warned off. About half the volume deals with the course of political events, in the ordinary acceptance of the term: the remainder with the progress of thought—scientific, economic, literary, artistic. And no point of importance seems to be overlooked in either survey. Indeed, for courageous and conscientious industry the writer would have been qualified to continue the *magnum opus* of the late Mr. Buckle, with many of whose opinions we should also imagine him to be in sympathy. As a rule, however, Mr. Weir's facts can easily be separated from his theories; and if it were not so, they would be worth a little trouble to get at. Thus, the origin of the present military system of Prussia is described in a few concise paragraphs which throw a flood of light upon the subject. Scharnhorst and his labours after Jena we all know; some of us may fail to realize that in creating a nation of soldiers he simply destroyed the work of Frederic William I. and Frederic II. instead of extending it. Practically the rulers of Prussia borrowed, and methodically worked out, the French revolutionary idea of the *levée en masse*. The sketch of the administration of Pombal offers another capital example of epitome; and the significance of his conflict with the Jesuits is well brought out. Incidentally we see the influence which the policy of the smallest of States may have upon the fortunes of the whole European commonwealth. English affairs Mr. Weir treats in a less satisfactory manner. For instance, the assertion that George III. was "determined . . . to be a King of the despotic German pattern" can hardly be characterized as an exaggeration, for it has no foundation whatever. The King was really an ardent admirer of the British Constitution, which in his days statesmen defined as a limited hereditary monarchy. A sounder estimate of Chatham is couched in impressive if not altogether correct language. It is difficult to understand how even so clever a man as the elder Pitt could "hail the birth" of the American Republic "with eloquent traditions of British freedom." But, though occasionally turgid, the style almost always fulfils its essential purpose of conveying the writer's meaning.

* "Modern Hinduism." By W. S. Wilkins. (London: Fisher Unwin, 1887.)

THE ST. JAMES'S GAZETTE.
FOURTH EDITION.

THE EARTHQUAKE.
TERRIBLE LOSS OF LIFE IN ITALY.
TOWNS DESTROYED.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

ROME, Feb. 24, One P.M.—Terrible details are arriving here of the destruction and loss of life caused by the earthquake shocks yesterday morning. More than 1,500 people were killed in the Genoese Riviera district. The town of Diana Marina no longer exists, and the neighbouring village of Cervo is nearly wholly destroyed. At Bajardo, a village situated on the top of a hill, the terrified inhabitants sought refuge in the church, which fell in, killing 300 people in its ruins.

(FROM THE SECOND EDITION OF THE "TIMES.")

MENTONE, Feb. 24.—There was a severe earthquake here at 6 A.M. to-day. Six shocks succeeded each other at intervals of three hours, with diminishing intensity. Considerable damage was caused to villas, and but slight injury to hotels. There were no casualties.

(EXCHANGE COMPANY'S TELEGRAMS.)

MONTE CARLO, Thursday, 8 A.M.—Everything is going well here. Thousands of fugitives from Cannes, Nice, Mentone, and San Remo have arrived, and much difficulty is experienced in providing accommodation. The fears of further shocks generally entertained last night have happily not been realized, and the people who were camping out have shown more confidence. There was no playing at the tables last night, and, though the authorities and prominent citizens and visitors have done all that is possible to induce the inhabitants and visitors to remain calm, the panic has only partly subsided. Last night the band performed in the square. This morning it is playing on the terrace. The places from which the refugees have come are supposed to be more dangerous than this.

PARIS, Thursday.—A telegram received here from Nice says that the panic has not subsided. Fugitives are flying everywhere. Two thousand English, Americans and Russians, were encamped on the heights last night, and 6,000 left for Paris.

CHRISTIANS IN CHINA.—CRITICAL SITUATION.

(FROM THE SECOND EDITION OF THE "TIMES.")

PEKIN, Feb. 24.—Lo, the head of a wealthy Christian family at Szechuen, has been executed, in spite of the remonstrance of the French Minister. The situation in the provinces of Szechuen and Kweichow is very critical. The Mandarins are siding with the *literati* against Christians. In order to avoid massacres, persecutions, and possibly civil war, it seems to be necessary that Rome should send a Legate to Peking to arrange a definite *modus vivendi* and protection for Christians.

THE GERMAN ELECTIONS.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

BERLIN, Feb. 24, 10.40 A.M.—Three hundred and thirty-four deputies have now been definitively elected. They comprise 13 New German Liberals, 2 of whom are supporters of the Septennate, 73 Conservatives, 30 Imperialists, 89 National Liberals, 90 Centrists, of whom 3 are favourable to the Septennate, 15 Poles, 15 Alsations, 2 Guelphs, one Dane, and 6 Socialists. The number of second ballots required is now sixty. The returns from three districts are still outstanding. Among the candidates re-elected is the Baron von Frankenstein, the Ultramontane leader.

GERMANY AND RUSSIA.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 24.—The journal *Herold* to-day describes as erroneous the recent statements from St. Petersburg published by the *Political Correspondence* of Vienna and the *Brussels Nord* in regard to Russia's attitude in the event of a Franco-German conflict. It declares that the relations between official Germany and official Russia are of the most cordial character conceivable.

THE CANADIAN ELECTIONS.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)

HALIFAX, Feb. 23.—The full returns of the elections in Nova Scotia show that the Secession party has been utterly routed. Many constituencies which gave large majorities to the Repeal candidates in June have now given equally large majorities to the Unionists.

MONTREAL, Feb. 23.—Bank and other stocks and securities advanced considerably to-day owing to the return of the Conservatives to power.

GERMANY AND THE VATICAN.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

ROME, Feb. 24.—Cardinal Jacobini yesterday evening sent instructions to the Papal Nuncio at Munich to enter into communication with the Centre party in the Reichstag and Prussian Diet with the object of inducing them to vote the Septennate and support the new Ecclesiastical Bill.

REPORT OF THE IRISH LAND COMMISSIONERS.

The Press Association states that the report of the Irish Land Commission will be laid upon the table of the House of Commons to-night. It is signed by Earl Cowper, Lord Milltown (subject to certain reservations), Sir James Caird, and Mr. Neligan. It commences by giving some account of the evidence produced, and by showing how the Irish tenants were affected by the Land Act of 1881 and the Land Purchase Act of 1885. It states that the operation of the former has been affected in many districts by combinations to resist the payment of rent and the right of free sale; such combinations not, as a rule, existing in Ulster. Severe boycotting has existed in very many districts, and the document called the "Plan of Campaign," which was an elaborate system for resisting the enforcement of legal obligations, has been extensively circulated among the tenantry. The refusal by some landlords of any abatement may explain much that has occurred; but the evidence shows that the tenant-farmers who joined many of these combinations constitute themselves the sole judges of what is an equitable rent. The fall in prices has much impaired the ability of the farmers to pay the full rent, there having been an average fall in the last two years as compared with the average of the four preceding years in the value of the agricultural capital of Irish occupiers amounting to 18½ per cent. There is in Ulster a general desire among the tenants to purchase. In other parts of Ireland most landlords are ready to sell on generally moderate terms. The action of the Purchase Act is necessarily slow, and time is essential to its success. The Commissioners recommend that the term of revision of judicial rents should be shortened from fifteen to five years, and that in future the average of prices be considered in revising the judicial rent. They trust the leaseholders will be admitted to the benefit of the Act of 1881. An earlier revision of the judicial rents than is at present fixed is advised from the straitened circumstances of Irish farmers. They recommend the admission of certain town park holdings to the fair-rent provision of the Land Act under specified conditions and the modification of some clauses of the Purchase Act. It is further recommended that all quit and Crown rents and tithe rent charges should be redeemable or apportionable, and it is suggested that the question of family and other charges on land as now reduced in value deserves the most careful consideration of the Legislature. Among other suggestions is one that no landlord should be entitled to recover any greater amount in arrear than for two years next before bringing the action. The maintenance of law and order, which in several parts of the country has been grievously outraged, is also pressed. The supplementary report of Lord Milltown does not concur in the recommendation for the revision of the judicial rents, or for an alteration in the existing judicial leases. The judicial rents, with some few exceptions, cannot be considered too high in any part of Ireland, and the landlords have treated their tenants with generous kindness and forbearance. Mr. Thomas Knipe, the tenant-farmer member of the Commission, does not sign the report, being unable (as he states in a letter to Lord Cowper) to agree with many of its suggestions. He also differs very widely from many of the Commissioners upon the question of combination. He is not in favour of any fresh coercive legislation, believing that combinations derive their force mainly from the exaction of excessive rents. He will consequently present an independent report.

THE ACTION AGAINST THE "ECHO."

The trial of this action, brought by Mr. Samuel Ivey Peters and Mr. Martin Kelly, to recover from the proprietors of the *Echo* damages for libel laid at £1,000, was continued before Mr. Justice Wills and a jury to-day, when Mr. Mellor addressed the jury on behalf of the plaintiffs. Mr. Winch said the defence of his clients was simply that what they did was done accidentally and without malice, and that they inserted an apology as soon as they knew that there was any ground for it. With respect generally to the comments in the *Echo* on the circumstances, out of which the action arose, he appealed to the jury whether there was not reasonable ground for comment in the prominent part which the plaintiffs took in convening and addressing the meeting of workmen in Trafalgar-square. Mr. Justice Wills, in summing up the case to the jury, pointed out that substantially there were two actions, each of the plaintiffs complaining of libels against him. Counsel for the defence had made a judicious speech, dwelling on matters generally but saying nothing about specific allegations against the plaintiffs. The jury would probably be of opinion that the specific allegations as to the plaintiffs being the organizers of the demonstration which led to the riots and hooting while passing the Reform Club were sufficiently serious to afford ground for complaint. It was a serious allegation to say that the plaintiffs' hounded on people who were under imperfect control and commenced the hooting opposite the Reform Club. The general comments could not be said to be unfair or unnecessarily severe. The plaintiff complained that the defendants went further, and mixed them up in one common combination with the Socialist leaders, and represented them as marching westward with the rioters, and commencing the hooting at the Reform Club. So far as these specific allegations were concerned, the case was practically undefended; and it would be for the jury to say, having regard to the refusal of the defendants to insert Mr. Kelly's letter, the delay in inserting an apology, and all the facts of the case as appearing on the evidence, whether the amount paid into court was or was not sufficient to meet the claim of the plaintiffs. The jury retired to consider their verdict, and after deliberating for an hour, returned with a verdict for the plaintiffs—damages, £100 to each, including the £5 paid into court. His lordship gave judgment accordingly, with costs.

MYSTERIOUS DEATH IN COLNEY HATCH ASYLUM.

Dr. Danford Thomas held an inquest this morning at Colney Hatch Lunatic Asylum respecting the death of Charles James Andrews, thirty-six years old, an inmate, whose ribs were found to have been fractured. The widow of the deceased said that three weeks ago she was informed that her husband was ill, and she found him in a very weak and feeble condition. He told her that he had been "knocked about" for an act which he could not avoid performing; but he would not tell her by whom, and asked her to say nothing more about it. One attendant under whose care the deceased had been put said that he had never struck or assaulted him in any way, and he knew of no fall or violence likely to have fractured his ribs. Another attendant stated that the deceased was in a very feeble state and frequently fell. After a long deliberation in private, the jury found that the deceased died from exhaustion following general paralysis, adding that they had heard in evidence that the deceased's ribs were broken, and that the bones of paralytic patients were liable to be soft and brittle and easily fractured. There was no direct evidence to show how the fractures were caused; but they were of opinion that they might have been occasioned by the method in which patients were removed; and they recommended that the attendants be instructed and trained in the proper and improved methods of lifting and removing patients.

THE STATE TRIAL AT DUBLIN.

Mr. Justice Murphy resumed his charge to the jury in the trial of Mr. Dillon and others at the sitting of the court this morning. He said the traversers were not indicted for using strong language or, if they liked, for denouncing landlords, or for pointing out according to their judgment what they considered harshness, cruelty, or exacting conduct on the part of individual landlords. So far as any language of that kind was directed to any individual landlord, the jury were not to take it into account in arriving at their verdict. The traversers were at perfect liberty to point out with respect to any particular estate that it was grossly over-rented, or that the landlord was a harsh man in dealing with his tenants; and if the landlord had reason to complain, that was a private matter and he could bring an action in a civil court.

MR. GLADSTONE AND THE EASTERN QUESTION.

In "The Balkan Peninsula," a new book by M. Emile de Laveleye, published by Mr. T. Fisher Unwin, a letter from Mr. Gladstone, dated January 27, 1887, appears. In it Mr. Gladstone says that "the well-being, tranquillity, and liberty of that region have now come to be of a more critical importance than ever to the interests of Europe."

THE PROPOSED REDUCTION OF THE HORSE ARTILLERY.

General Fraser has given notice that he will on Monday next ask the Secretary of State for War whether, in view of batteries of Horse Artillery being so difficult to construct, so impossible to improvise, and in the interests of the efficiency of cavalry in the field, the Government will postpone the proposed abolition of five batteries of Horse Artillery out of a home strength of thirteen, until this House shall have had an opportunity of discussing the whole question?

FATAL FOOTBALL ACCIDENT.

An inquest was held at Manchester last night on the body of a young man named Makin, who met with fatal injuries in a football match on Saturday. The deceased was playing in a Rugby game, when he ran against another player and was accidentally struck in the abdomen. He fell unconscious, and died on Monday. The coroner commented on the rough character of the game, and warned players that they ran great risk of being charged with manslaughter. A verdict of Accidental death was returned.

THIS DAY'S RACING.

LEICESTER.

QUORN HURDLE RACE. (Two miles.)—Wilhelmina Waller (Mr. Lambton), 1. Siam (Hunt), 2. Tulip (Holbeach), 3. Three started. Betting: 6 to 4 agst Wilhelmina Waller, 6 to 4 agst Siam, 100 to 30 agst Tulip.

THIS DAY'S COURSEING.

RAINTON.

STUDLEY ROYAL STAKES.—Fourth Round: Jewel Case beat Sutton Squire. Marfleet Maid beat Border Home. Dawsmere beat Terminus. Jenny Macpherson beat Lord Byron II.

Fifth Round: Jewel Case beat Marfleet Maid. Dawsmere beat Jenny Macpherson. Deciding Course: Jewel Case and Dawsmere divided the Stakes.

RAINTON STAKES.—Fourth Round: The Climber beat Bird's Head. Monkside beat Waterwitch.

Deciding Course: The Climber and Monkside divided the Stakes.

FOUNTAINS ARBY STAKES.—First Round: Hotspring beat Teaser II. Crosby Lad beat Willie the Miller. Buzzer beat Mint Rock. Paris-Yet beat Black Drop. Flower Bed beat Careless Girl. Arbutus beat The Bard. Dunhouse beat Anchor. Waimate beat Corsair II.

Second Round: Crosby Lad beat Hotspring. Buzzer beat Paris Yet. Arbutus beat Flower Bed. Waimate beat Dunhouse.

Third Round: Buzzer beat Crosby Lad. Arbutus beat Waimate.

BLOIS HILL STAKES.—First Round: Dewley Burn beat Prince of Wales II. Grasby beat Dora Willard.

Deciding Course: Grasby beat Dewley Burn.

PLUMPTON.

HASTINGS STAKES.—First Round: Ironclad beat Maestro. Princess Louise beat Sagacious. Dennis beat Don Carlos. Hornchurch beat Red Veil. Mereworth beat Rushall. Proserpine beat Quarryman. High-and-Mighty beat Messenger IV. Donnington beat Irish Diamond (after an undecided). Wareham beat Green Linnet. Beaufort beat Good. Princess Mary beat Pretty Nellie.

EASTBOURNE STAKES.—First Round: Simply Absurd beat Phoebe II. Randy Poll beat High Carnival. Madman beat Handy Prince. Myra Helen beat Poplar. Revolt beat Princess of the Glen. Wrexham beat Miss Horner. Blaina beat Steam Up. Poole beat Puddletown. Hurstpierpoint beat Mystery V. Reliable beat Burford.

THIS DAY'S MONEY MARKET.

CITY OFFICE, 13, Angel-court, Throgmorton-street, Half-past Eleven.

The rates for money in the open market are nominal pending the result of the Bank Court. Discount is quoted $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. for three months' bills, subject to any change in the official rate. Day-to-day loans are quoted $3\frac{1}{2}$ to $3\frac{3}{4}$ per cent., and the demand is active.

No change has been made in the Bank rate.

Quarter to Twelve.

Twelve o'clock.

Prince Bismarck's decisive success in the elections imparts a more hopeful tone to the Stock Markets; but brokers and jobbers are occupied with the Settlement, and there is little doing. Home, American, Canadian, and Mexican, Railway stocks are generally higher than at the close last evening; but Foreign Government Bonds are neglected, operators in fact, are waiting for the lead of the capitalists and speculators of Berlin.

Quarter past Two.

The Stock Market's, while maintaining steadiness, are, for some securities, rather easier than at midday, owing to the small amount of general business and the diversion of the dealers' attention to the progress of the Settlement. The opening telegrams from Paris reported firmness on the Bourse there; but the market is now stated to be dull, and that of Vienna weak. The English Funds are quiet, but steady at yesterday's prices. Home Railways were steady this morning, but are a little under the best points. American Securities are, in some cases, also hardly so good as they were, but are still quoted at a decided advance on the day. Grand Trunk of Canada stocks are firm at an improvement, and Mexican Railway stocks continue in favour at higher prices. Foreign Government Securities show a

dull tendency for some of the leading representative stocks in the absence of fresh business.

The following are the changes as compared with yesterday's closing prices:—In the English Funds, Consols for money and the account (March) are unchanged at 101 to $101\frac{1}{2}$, Reduced and New Three per Cents. at $101\frac{1}{2}$ to $101\frac{3}{4}$, and New Two-and-a-Half per Cents. $88\frac{1}{2}$ to $88\frac{3}{4}$.

In Home Railways, Caledonian has risen $\frac{1}{2}$, Great Northern Ordinary $\frac{1}{2}$, the A $\frac{1}{2}$, Great Western $\frac{1}{2}$, Brighton A $\frac{1}{2}$, and North British $\frac{1}{2}$; but Chatham has fallen $\frac{1}{2}$, the Preference $\frac{1}{2}$, North-Western $\frac{1}{2}$, Sheffield A $\frac{1}{2}$, District $\frac{1}{2}$, and South-Eastern Deferred $\frac{1}{2}$. In Canadian and Foreign Railways, Grand Trunk Ordinary has risen $\frac{1}{2}$, the First Preference $\frac{1}{2}$, the Second $\frac{1}{2}$, the Third $\frac{1}{2}$, the Guaranteed $\frac{1}{2}$, Canadian Pacific $\frac{1}{2}$, Mexican Ordinary $\frac{1}{2}$, the First Preference $\frac{1}{2}$, and the Second 1.

In Foreign Government Bonds, Egyptian State Domain has fallen $\frac{1}{2}$, French Three per Cent. Rentes $\frac{1}{2}$, the Four-and-a-Half per Cents. $\frac{1}{2}$, Hungarian Four per Cent. Gold Rentes of 1881 $\frac{1}{2}$, Italian Five per Cents. of 1861 $\frac{1}{2}$, Mexican Old Three per Cents. $\frac{1}{2}$, Turkish Group I. $\frac{1}{2}$, and the Defence $\frac{1}{2}$; but Egyptian Preference has risen $\frac{1}{2}$, and Spanish Four per Cents. 1-16.

In American Securities, New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio First Mortgage Bonds have advanced $\frac{1}{2}$, Milwaukee $\frac{1}{2}$, Denver $\frac{1}{2}$, Lake Shore $\frac{1}{2}$, Louisville $\frac{1}{2}$, New York Central $\frac{1}{2}$, Erie $\frac{1}{2}$, the Second Mortgage Bonds $\frac{1}{2}$, Pennsylvania $\frac{1}{2}$, Reading $\frac{1}{2}$, and Union Pacific $\frac{1}{2}$; but Ontario has fallen $\frac{1}{2}$.

The premium on gold at Buenos Ayres has fallen to 28.80 per cent.

The directors of the English and Scottish Mercantile Investment Trust (Limited), whose capital is £500,000, announce an issue of the unallotted portion of £250,000 in £5 shares at par, payable £1 on application and £2 on allotment. The company was established in June, 1886, for the purpose of investing large sums of money by judicious selection of investments and distributing them over a wide area, to secure an ample return of interest, whilst obtaining good security, the profits not incurring the risk of being materially affected by the fluctuations of any one stock in particular. By investing in Government stocks and other securities of a sound financial character, the means is brought within the reach of large and small investors of obtaining a high and steady rate of interest combined with practical immunity from risk. The dividend paid on the Preferred shares for the quarter ended 30th of September, 1886, was at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, and on the Deferred 7 per cent.; and for the quarter ended the 31st of December, 1886, 5 per cent. on the Preferred and 8 per cent. on the Deferred shares, carrying to reserve a sum equal to a further 4 per cent.

ENGLISH GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.	
Consols	101 101½
Ditto Account (March) ..	101 101½
Reduced Three per Cents ..	101½ 101½
New Three per Cents	101½ 101½
New Two-and-a-Half per Cents ..	88½ 88½
India Stock Four per Cent. ..	102½ 103
Ditto Three per Cent.	85½ 85
Ditto Four per Cent. Rupee Paper ..	70½ 70½
Ditto 4½ per Cent. Rupee Paper ..	72½ 72½
Bank of England Stock	297 299
Metropolitan 3½ per Cent. ..	107 107½

CANADIAN GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.	
Canada 4 per Cent. of 1910-35 ..	103½ 104½
N.S. Wales 4 p. C. of 1903-5-8-9-10 ..	101½ 102½
N. Zealand 4 per Cent. Cons. ..	94 95
Queensland 6 per Cent. 1891-96 ..	106 118
S. Australian 4 p. C. of 1894-1916 ..	97 99
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 ..	110½ 111½
Ditto Four per Cent.	110½ 111½
Virginia Funded Bonds	52 53
New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio First Mortgage Bonds ..	47½ 47½
Central Pacific Shares	38½ 38½
Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Paul ..	93½ 94½
Denver and Rio Grande Shares ..	26½ 26½
Illinois Shares	131½ 132½
Lake Shore and Michigan Southern 100-dol. Shares ..	96½ 97
Louisville and Nashville 100-dol. Shares ..	63½ 63½
New York Central Shares	116 116½
New York, Lake Erie, and Western 100-dol. Shares	34½ 35
Ditto Preference Six per Cent ..	73 74
Ditto Second Mortgage Bonds ..	101½ 101½
New York, Ontario, and Western Shares	18½ 18½
Ohio and Mississippi Shares ..	28 28½
Oregon and California Seven per Cent. Preference Shares ..	19½ 19½
Pennsylvania Shares	57½ 57½
Philadelphia and Reading Shares ..	18½ 19½
Ditto General Mortgage Bonds ..	106 106½
Union Pacific Shares	58½ 59
Wabash, St. Louis, and Pacific Ordinary Shares	17½ 17½
Ditto 100-dol. Preference	30 30½

BRITISH AND FOREIGN RAILWAY STOCKS.	
Caledonian	95 98½
Great Eastern	65½ 65½
Great Northern Ordinary	111½ 111½
Ditto A	110 110½
Great Western	135½ 136½
Lancashire and Yorkshire	115½ 115½
London and Brighton Ordinary ..	125 127
Ditto A	113 113½
London, Chatham, & Dover Ord ..	113 113½
Ditto 4½ per Cent. Preference ..	97½ 97½
London and North-Western ..	123½ 123½
London and South-Western ..	123½ 127½
Manchester, Sheffield, & Lincoln ..	65 65
Ditto A	35½ 35½
Metropolitan	108½ 108½
Metropolitan District	35½ 35½
Midland	124½ 125
North British	99½ 99½
North-Eastern	151½ 152
North Staffordshire	91 92
South-Eastern Ordinary	124 125
Ditto Deferred	101½ 101½
Grand Trunk of Canada Ordinary ..	125 125
Ditto First Preference Stock ..	74½ 74½
Ditto Second Preference Stock ..	56½ 56½
Ditto Third Preference Stock ..	20½ 20½
Ditto Guaranteed	7½ 7½
Canadian Pacific Shares	64½ 64½
Buenos Ayres & Pac. 7 p. C. Shares ..	23½ 24½
Ditto 7 p. C. Debentures	120 128
Lombardo-Venetian	7½ 7½
Mexican Ordinary	55½ 55½
Ditto Eight per Cent. First Pref ..	118½ 118½
Ditto Six p. C. Second Pref ..	79½ 79½
Ditto Six per Cent. Perpetual ..	119 121
Debenture Stock	119 121

MISCELLANEOUS SECURITIES.	
Australian Agricultural	118 122
Anglo-Am. Brush Light (63 paid) ..	2 2½
Hudson's Bay	22 22½
National Discount	10½ 11
Peninsular and Oriental Steam ..	59 61
Royal Mail Steam	37 39
Suez Canal	77½ 77½

FOREIGN STOCK MARKETS.	
Argentine Six per Cent. of 1868 ..	100½ 101½
Ditto Six per Cent. of 1871 ..	102 104
Ditto 6 p. Cent. Hard Dol. Bond ..	72 73
Austrian Four p. Ct. Gold Rentes ..	85 87
Ditto Five per Cent. Silver	62½ 63½
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 ..	90½ 91½
Buenos Ayres Six per Cent. of 187 ..	98½ 99½
Ditto Six per Cents. of 1873 ..	98½ 99½
Chilian 4½ per Cent. Conversion ..	98 99
Chinese Six p. Ct. of 1895, March ..	109 111
Ditto Six p. Cent. of 1895, June ..	108 110
Costa Rica 5 per Cent. Bonds A ..	65 67
Ditto B 4 p. Ct. now 5 p. Ct. 1888 ..	51 51
Egyptian Three p. Ct. Guarantee ..	98½ 99
Ditto Five p. Ct. State Domain ..	91½ 92
Ditto Four per Cent. Unified ..	71½ 71½
Ditto Five per Cent. Preference ..	94½ 94½
Ditto Four p. Ct. Daira Sanieh ..	68½ 68½
Entre Rios 6 p. Ct. 1886	19 20
Ditto 6 p. Ct. Ry. Mortgage ..	93 94
French Three per Cent. Rentes ..	77½ 77½
Ditto 4½ per Cent. of 1872 ..	101 101½
Greek Five per Cent. of 1879 ..	77½ 78½
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1881 ..	59½ 59½
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1884 ..	58½ 59
Hungarian Gold Rentes of 1881 ..	76½ 76½
Italian Five per Cent. of 1861 ..	93½ 93½
Mexican Old Three per Cent. ..	26½ 26½
Ditto of 1864	11½ 12
Norwegian Four per Cent. of 1880 ..	102 104
Peruvian Six per Cent. of 1870 ..	15 15½
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1872 ..	12 12½
Portuguese Three per Cent	52½ 53½
Russian Five per Cent. of 1871 ..	93 93
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1872 ..	92½ 93½
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1873 ..	91½ 91½
Ditto 4½ per Cent. of 1875 ..	85 85
Santa Fe 5 p. Ct. N. C. Ry. Mort ..	97 99
Ditto 5 p. Ct. Extensions Mort ..	89 91
Spanish Four per Cent.	62½ 62½
Ditto Two per Cent.	46½ 46½
Swedish Four per Cent. of 1880 ..	102 104
Turkish Six per Cent. Group I ..	20 21
Ditto Nine per Cent.	13½ 13½
Ditto Six & Five per Ct. .. 38½	13½ 13½
Ditto 4½ p. Ct. Tribute Loan of 1871 ..	69 69½
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1854 ..	92 94
Ditto Five per Cent. Defence ..	80 80½
Uruguay Unified Five p. Ct. of 1883 ..	47½ 48

BANKS.	
Anglo-Egyptian	15 16
City	18½ 19½
Colonial	30 32
Consolidated	63½ 7½
Imperial Ottoman	9½ 9½
London and County	80½ 81½
London and Westminster	63 64
London Joint Stock	36 37
National Provincial (612 paid) ..	49½ 50½
Union of London	35½ 36½

MINING SHARES.	
Cape Copper	21 23
Indian Consolidated	7½ 7½
Mason and Barry	7½ 7½
Montana	8½ 8½
Mysore Gold	7 7½
Oreogum Gold	13-16 15-16
Richmond Consolidated	4½ 4½
Rio Tinto	105-16 107-16
St. John del Rey	29 32
Tharsis Sulphur	3½ 4
United Mexican	2½ 3½

TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE SECURITIES.	
Anglo-American	31½ 32
Brazilian Submarine	10½ 10½
Consolidated Telephone	3½ 3½
Direct United States	7½ 8
Eastern	10½ 10½
Eastern Extension	10½ 10½
Globe Ordinary	4½ 4½
Ditto Preference	11½ 11½
India-rubber, Gutta-percha, and Telegraph Works	21½ 22½
Oriental Telephone	3-16 5-16
Telegraph Construction	37 38
United Telephone	12½ 12½
Western and Brazilian	7½ 7½

TRAMWAY SHARES.	
Dublin	10½ 10½ ad
Glasgow	12½ 13 ad
Liverpool Un. Tram. and Omnibus ..	10½ 11½ ad
London	18½ 19
London Street	19½ 20 ad
North Metropolitan	20½ 21

MR. BRIGHT AND THE BATTLE OF ABOU KLEA.

Mr. Charles Williams, the well-known war correspondent, has addressed a letter to Mr. Bright with reference to the remarks made by that gentleman as to the conduct of the British soldiers at the battle of Abou Klea, on which we commented yesterday. Mr. Williams says:—

You say that you know this story to be true. You were not at Abou Klea. I was. I declare the story is not true—no more true than that we had a chaplain with us. In the first place, "in the evening" the troops were not near the battle-field, but at the Wells, several miles further east. I quite believe your informant "did not know what was going on," but I did. Until the move was made to the Wells, I was roaming all over the battle-field and its vicinity. After the fight General Sir H. Stewart shelled the scrub in which the Mahdists had been, and many still were, hiding, in order to complete the discomfiture of the enemy. There were a few wounded Mahdists lying on and near the field of battle, mostly half hidden in scrub, or grass, or hollows. As some of our men went over the field here and there a wounded Mahdist who had retained his arms would half rise, and endeavour to kill with spear or javelin one of our soldiers. Of course he was at once shot or bayoneted. I owe my own life, or at least freedom from injury, to the prompt action of a guardsman who, seeing a native thus aiming at me, blew out his brains. And there were several natives who were not wounded who rose from ambush at our men and got the death they sought. The whole force was spellbound for a minute at one of these encounters: the native in springing up having taken the soldier by surprise and seized his bayonet. It was a duel to the death before all our eyes, and it was only after what seemed a long time that the soldier won. The truth is, and I appeal to every man there, except the anonymous slanderer who seems still to bear her Majesty's commission, that the natives everywhere refused quarter and "sought Paradise." It is their way, and they took the best means of achieving their purpose.

The special correspondent of the *Daily News*, who was present at the battle of Abou Klea, writes to that paper on the subject of Mr. Bright's allegations. He says:—

That some wounded Arabs were bayoneted by our men after the fight I am quite ready to admit; but it must be said very emphatically that there was justification, and even necessity, for this. The Arabs neither gave nor accepted quarter, and often feigned death in order to have a chance of thrusting their keen knives into one of our men. I went out while the square was re-forming with some "heavies" to search for the body of an officer whom I knew well. While thus engaged nearly every one of us had several narrow escapes of being stabbed by Arabs who let us pass their apparently lifeless forms, and then sprang up suddenly, spear or sword in hand. Directly one of our men saw a dusky form begin to move, he knew perfectly well that it was a question which should strike first, and naturally he fired a snap shot or used his bayonet in self-defence. Possibly a few helpless Arabs might have been killed by mistake in the momentary panic that is apt to seize even the bravest men when they suspect treachery. One case, and one only, of this kind I saw, but it was instantly stopped by the stern reprimand of officers who distinguished themselves no less by the crowning quality of mercy than by their courage in battle. That nothing like a slaughter of the wounded occurred may be gathered not merely from the statements of myself and others who were present, but from the fact that stricken Arabs were allowed to limp away as well as they could or to lie unmolested on the battle-field, where many of them were found and cared for afterwards. On our way down to the Wells of Abou Klea we passed scores of them lying in the nullahs, and some of our men even risked their own lives to show some tenderness towards their fallen foes.

APPLICATION TO COMMIT MR. JAMES M'HENRY.

In the Queen's Bench Division to-day, an application was made to Mr. Justice Cave to commit Mr. M'Henry for contempt of court for non-compliance with an order made by Mr. Registrar Hazlitt to file a further and better cash account. There was a further reference to his lordship as to certain questions he had refused to answer, and as to others which he had answered unsatisfactorily. The facts were shortly these:—The failure took place in 1879, and in 1883 resolutions for a composition were registered, and in March, 1886, Mr. M'Henry was adjudicated a bankrupt. After a long delay the accounts were filed, and upon the public examination he was ordered to file a cash account from January, 1879, to March, 1886. This he agreed to do and he filed a cash account from August, 1880, instead of from January, 1879, and a further account had been filed; but that was from January to the 19th of July, 1879, and although that showed only £869 on each side his banking account showed that during that time a sum of no less than £23,000 passed through the bank. In the cash account filed large sums of money appear to have been given to his private secretary, and to have been paid away; but nothing had been stated as to where those sums of money had come from. His lordship, having ascertained that there was no report by the Registrar in the court below on the file, declined to deal with the case in the absence of such report, inasmuch as it would entail upon him (Mr. Justice Cave) going into the whole case from first to last; whereas the Registrar had the whole of the facts in his mind. Upon the other question, as to the refusal to answer questions, Mr. Herbert Reed, who appeared for the bankrupt, stated that the bankrupt had consulted him, with the result that he was not only prepared to answer all questions, but within a week from the reference having been ordered, he (the bankrupt) had written the trustees' solicitors to that effect. His lordship refused to make an order, being of opinion that, under the circumstances, there was no necessity to have brought the matter before the court.

SERIOUS ILLNESS OF PRINCE ALEXANDER OF BATTENBERG.

Prince Alexander of Battenberg is suffering from typhus fever at Darmstadt. His father has written to a friend in Vienna stating that while he was at Nice Prince Alexander developed the first symptoms of the fever which has now completely prostrated him. Instead of going farther south, consequently, the Prince travelled to Paris, where he arrived very ill. A physician was then sent from Darmstadt to attend the Prince; but it was not until six days afterwards that it was found possible to remove his Highness to Darmstadt. According to one account, the Prince, when he arrived at Darmstadt on Tuesday, was quite unconscious, and it is feared his life is in imminent danger.

THE IRISH CONSTABULARY AND THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE

It is proposed to-day in Dublin that the Royal Irish Constabulary shall at once open a fund to present the Queen with a Jubilee offering in the form of an Irish jaunting-car, a set of Irish-made harness, and a well-trained horse of Irish breeding, this being a suitable time to show the loyalty of the Irish force to the Queen.

"THE ROYAL KALENDER."

Messrs. W. H. Allen and Co. have issued "The Royal Kalendar" for 1887. It gives a great deal of useful information, much of which cannot be found elsewhere, concerning the various literary, scientific, and other societies and institutions, and also full lists of the staffs of the various public departments. A copious index, containing the names of all the persons mentioned in the work, is appended.

THE FISHERIES QUESTION.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)

ST. JOHN'S (NEWFOUNDLAND), Feb. 23.—Mr. Thorburn, the Premier, and Sir Ambrose Shea have sailed for England in order to confer with the Imperial Government on the Newfoundland Bait Bill. Mr. Thorburn and Sir Ambrose will also represent the colony at the approaching Colonial Conference.

NEW YORK, Feb. 24.—A convention of smack-owners and others connected with the fishing interest, has met at Gloucester, Massachusetts, and adopted resolutions in favour of retaliatory measures against Canada.

NEWS FROM INDIA.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

CALCUTTA, Feb. 24.—The increase in the native army which was sanctioned in 1885 is about to be carried into effect, and five new infantry regiments, an extra squadron of cavalry, and a Corps of Guides are to be formed. The Budget will probably be issued on March 25. It is understood that no new taxes are to be imposed. The 4th and 8th Regiments of Madras Infantry are under orders for Burma.

THE MUTINY AT CABUL.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

BOMBAY, Feb. 24.—Advices from Cabul, derived from a native source, and dated the 11th inst., states that the mutiny among the troops there has been quelled.

THE LABOUR PARTY IN THE UNITED STATES.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

CINCINNATI, Feb. 24.—At a Labour Convention held in this city, the committee submitted a platform recommending the people to organize a new Union Labour party to work for the repeal of all class legislation favouring the rich, advocating a graduated income tax, and the amendment of the constitutional law regarding the election of United States senators, so that they might be elected by the direct vote of the people, instead of by the State Legislatures as at present.

THE ATTEMPT TO MURDER AT BETHNAL-GREEN.

Mr. Hofland, the silk merchant who was shot by his clerk at Bethnal-green yesterday, was still alive this morning. He is, however, in a critical state. The surgeons are unable to extract the bullet.

Mr. Hofland is a silk merchant, carrying on business in Punderson-gardens, Bethnal-green. It appears that between one and two o'clock yesterday he was sitting in his office, when George Wiltshire, aged about nineteen, who has been acting as a traveller and collector for Mr. Hofland, entered the room. Some conversation ensued as to the collection of certain rents, and Wiltshire was seen by Mr. Hofland to put his hand in his pocket as if to produce the money. He, however, pulled out a revolver and shot at Mr. Hofland, the bullet entering the right cheek. Wiltshire then ran out of the room, while Mr. Hofland, who, although staggered by the shot, still retained his feet and presence of mind, shouted for assistance. The forewoman, Mrs. Hughes, who was the only person on the premises at the time, ran in and found Mr. Hofland leaning against a support, bleeding profusely from the right cheek. Medical aid was sent for. Shortly afterwards the body of Wiltshire was found lying behind a door on the ground-floor. He had shot himself through the right temple. He was lying in a pool of blood, and a six-barrelled revolver was clutched in his right hand. He breathed heavily once or twice and expired. Mr. Hofland was removed to the London Hospital. It was found that the bullet had penetrated through several bones in the right cheek to a depth of 2½ in., and lodged near the base of the skull.

The Prince of Wales will return to London from the Continent next Monday evening. The Princess of Wales is expected to arrive at Marlborough House earlier on the same day from Sandringham.

Mr. W. H. Smith, M.P., and Mrs. Smith, Mr. Goschen and Mrs. Goschen arrived at Windsor Castle last evening, and were included in the royal dinner party. They returned to town this morning.

The Baroness Burdett-Coutts has promised to open the new building of the Nelson-street Ragged School Mission, Camberwell, on Tuesday evening, the 15th of March.

The Marquess of Bute has given £1,000 towards the establishment of a National Institute for Wales at Cardiff for the advancement of literature, art, and science, as a Jubilee memorial. The scheme is expected to cost £17,000.

The Duke of Cambridge has decided that at Easter the volunteers shall be exercised in conjunction with regular troops, and he has approved of field days being held at Dover, Portsmouth, and Aldershot. While excluding Brighton, the Commander-in-Chief is willing to consider proposals for a field-day at Eastbourne.

The death is announced in the City of Cork of Richard Caulfield, LL.D., in his sixty-fourth year. Dr. Caulfield was possessed of rare attainments as a scholar, and his extensive learning and accurate information upon all matters of archaeological and antiquarian research constituted him an authority unsurpassed in his peculiar province of knowledge. As a genealogist he had few rivals.

The Morpeth Town Council refused, at a public meeting of the inhabitants last night, to form a committee to solicit subscriptions to commemorate the Queen's Jubilee.

The Honourable Sidney Herbert, M.P., last night opened a new Conservative working men's club for the districts of South Norwood and Woodside. A resolution of confidence in her Majesty's Government was passed.

By the death of Admiral William C. F. Wilson, C.B., on the Retired List, a flag officer's Greenwich Hospital pension of £150 a year is placed at the disposal of the First Lord of the Admiralty.

A good-service pension is placed at the disposal of the First Lord of the Admiralty by the death yesterday morning, at his residence, Cadlington, Horn-dean, Hants, of Admiral Sir Michael Seymour.

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

THE GERMAN ELECTIONS.

PRINCE BISMARCK'S VICTORY.

The returns of the German elections as far as known up to about nine o'clock last night showed the strength of the various parties to be:—Conservatives, 70, Imperialists 21, National Liberals 89, Centre 64, New German Liberals 10, Socialists 6, Alsations 15, Poles 14, Guelphs 2. To these have to be added three members of the Centre and two new German Liberals who have pronounced in favour of the Septennate. Thus there were 185 for and 111 against the Septennate. The second ballots numbered 56. The Emperor has summoned the new Reichstag to meet on the 3rd of March. The Berlin correspondent of the *Times* says:—

In his time Prince Bismarck has had many joyful messages of peace and victory to communicate to his imperial master, but few so gratifying as the announcement that the Septennate is secured, and that the Imperial Government henceforth—for the next three years presumably at least—will have a working majority of its own in the Reichstag, independent of all Popes and Pearls of Meppen whatsoever. For this now really seems to be the result. The German nation has been appealed to, and it has answered in the most unequivocal manner in favour of its rulers. Prince Bismarck has just received a splendid vote of further confidence from his countrymen. It naturally suits the purpose of the defeated parties to make believe that this vote is the result of electoral fabrication, and of the exercise of an elaborate system of "Lug and Trug," or misrepresentation and mendacity on gullible voters on the part of the Government and its supporters. But this convenient theory will not hold water for an instant. Prince Bismarck has done nothing more than appeal to the political heart of the German people, and the chord of patriotism has responded to the master's touch. The result seems to be one of the proudest triumphs which the Prince has ever achieved.

THE MAHARAJAH DHULEEP SINGH.

A seditious native newspaper, which is published in the little French territory of Chandernagore, near Calcutta, where it is out of the jurisdiction of the Indian law courts, publishes the following letter from the Maharajah Dhuleep Singh, dated "37, Rue d'Anjou, St. Honoré, Paris, December 10, 1886":—

I have no opinion to offer on the present situation and future of India, but shall frankly tell you what steps I have resolved on taking should certain events take place in the East. Most likely you are not aware that I have repudiated the Treaty of Annexation of the Punjab, which was extorted from me when I was a child of only some eleven years of age, by my guardians, the so-called Christian British nation, and that I now take my stand upon a previous treaty, called the "Bhyrowal Treaty," of 1846, under which solemn covenant England bound herself to maintain me on my throne till I attained my majority, and that, consequently, I am no longer a well-wisher of Great Britain, whose Government has been treating me so basely of late.

(Signed) DHULEEP SINGH.

The lawful Sovereign of the Sikhs, in virtue of the Treaty of Bhyrowal, 1846.

The *Court and Society Review* in quoting the above letter says:—This may be only bombast, but other information from India is to the effect that the Maharajah is intriguing among certain discontented natives in the Punjab. The Government of India might publish here and in India the true story of Dhuleep Singh's rights and wrongs. At present it is allowing a grave scandal to grow.

THE JERUSALEM BISHOPRIC.

The Archbishops of Canterbury and York and the Bishop of London have appointed the Venerable Archdeacon Blyth, late of Rangoon, to be "Anglican Bishop in Jerusalem and the East." The Church Missionary Society and the Society for Promoting Christianity amongst the Jews have each placed £300 a year at the disposal of the Archbishop to make up the deficit caused by the withdrawal of the Prussian fund, and to make the income of the Bishop £1,200 a year. It is with extreme sorrow (says the *Guardian*) that we record the intention of the two Archbishops and the Bishop of London to send an Anglican Bishop to Jerusalem:—

The sufficient and unanswerable objection to such a step is the want of any reason for taking it, and that is a want which does not promise soon to be supplied. But if we regret the intention to appoint such a Bishop we read with positive astonishment the mode in which it is proposed that he shall be supported. The declaration of the Archbishops and the Bishop of London says expressly that it is not the business of an Anglican Bishop at Jerusalem to make English proselytes of the members of the Churches of the East—for the apparently qualifying statement, that "the liberty of inquiry and of conviction which exists in England is not intended to be diminished" in Syria or Egypt, may be dismissed as nothing to the purpose. An Orthodox Greek has no less and no more right to change his religion than an Anglican has to change his, and that right the Archbishops of Canterbury and York and the Bishop of London will hardly maintain to be more than a right in law. But then the stipend of the Bishop is in part to be paid by the very society which is at this moment busy in making English proselytes of the members of the Orthodox Church. We submit, with all respect, that under such an arrangement as this either the Patriarch of Jerusalem or the Church Missionary Society must be deceived. If the new Bishop is to go out to carry on the work now done by the agents of the Church Missionary Society in Palestine the Patriarch will be the victim. If he is to go out to "baffle and render fruitless" the "spiritual assault and activity" directed against the Orthodox Church, the Church Missionary Society will be the victim. The first step towards placing the revived bishopric on a footing which shall be so much as tolerable is to decline an offer which cannot but have one or other of these results. An Anglican Bishop at Jerusalem ought not to owe either his welcome or his income to false pretences.

THE STATE OF IRELAND.

All the boys, numbering over 200, at the Christian Brothers' School at New Ross yesterday left in a body; owing, it is understood, to the attendance of the son of the new master of the union. Although the boy objected to left on Tuesday and did not attend yesterday, the others determined on making a demonstration, and, after assembling outside the monastery, marched in procession through the principal streets singing "God Save Ireland," and cheering the elected guardians.

The tails of seventy-two valuable cows and bullocks were cut, and the animals otherwise injured on Tuesday night, on the lands of Mr. Goodman, J.P., of Mountcoal, near Listowel. No reason for the act can be suggested, as the owner is regarded as a good landlord.

The wife of a farmer named M'Guire died a day or two ago at Clooncan, near Ballyhaunis. M'Guire, who is boycotted for serving writs on Lord De Freyne's property, was unable to procure a coffin in the neighbourhood. Yesterday, however, the carrier arrived with a coffin, and was at once surrounded by the people of the village, who menaced him. As he pleaded ignorance, he was allowed to go unmolested. No person attended the funeral.

A Clifden telegram states that the tenants of Mr. Berridge, of London, through his agent, Mr. George Robinson, of Roundstone, at Aghriamore, Connemara, having been refused an abatement, have adopted the Plan of Campaign.

A DIFFERENCE OF VIEW.

Mr. BRADLAUGH on Mr. LONG, at Paisley. To N. H. Datson, Esq.

Dear Sir,—In reply to your favour, the man Long is an incorrigible and impudent liar. He never formally debated with me in his life. He has attended two or three lectures at which I have spoken, and has offered opposition at the end. He did so, I think, twice at Paisley. His statement that he then so raised public feeling against me that on my way to the railway station I was compelled to seek refuge from the fury of the mob in a restaurant is not only untrue, but it is easily capable of disproof, as a very full report of my lecture—which was on a political subject—and of Mr. Long's ridiculous interposition was given in the Paisley papers.—Yours very sincerely, —C. BRADLAUGH.

The *North British Daily Mail* on Mr. BRADLAUGH, at Paisley, 14th June, 1881.

Mr. Bradlaugh proposed a vote of thanks to the chairman. The meeting broke up in confusion. Mr. Bradlaugh and Mr. Long, each accompanied by his supporters were recognized outside the hall and followed to the railway station, where Mr. Bradlaugh was obliged to take refuge in the refreshment-room from the hooting of the crowd, who also raised shouts of approval for Mr. Long. When the train for Glasgow drew up at the platform Mr. Long was accorded a hearty farewell; while Mr. Bradlaugh, who had entered a compartment in which two clergymen were seated, was hooted and booed at by a few anti-affirmationists, who chased the train out of the station with shouts of derision.

MR. WILLIAM HARRIS ON TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

Mr. William Harris, of 3, St. John-street, West Smithfield, writes to us as follows:—

With reference to the report of my case at Bow-street Police Court on Friday last, which has appeared in your columns, I beg to ask your indulgence to allow me to make a few remarks in vindication of myself with regard to that matter. I was summoned, as you are aware, because a son of mine, William Harris, had not attended school a sufficient number of times. The education of my children, as may be supposed, is a matter of the gravest importance to me. And therefore I was compelled to explain to the court as fully as possible my views on the matter. I must complain of the summary manner in which the case was disposed of without the slightest examination of the capabilities of the child named in the summons. I am advised that if the education of a child can be proved not to have been neglected, I am entitled to impart that education in whatever way I please, and, as a thoroughly practical exponent of the benefits of technical education, I have taught, and in spite of School Board prosecutions shall continue to teach, my children in the way I consider best for their future welfare. But Mr. Bridge would not examine the child, and inflicted a fine which, small as it was, seems to convey some reflection upon the manner in which I carry out my duties as a parent. Therefore I feel obliged to explain that I have always believed, and have acted up to that belief, that a child cannot be properly educated in such a way as to obtain his own living upon schooling alone. I fully agree with the champions of technical education, which has advanced with such rapid strides. In my own case I might have relied upon two or three technical objections to obtain the dismissal of the summons, but I preferred to have the case fought out on its merits; and, although I may appear to be a transgressor of the law, I desire it to be known that I am endeavouring to educate my children according to the doctrines laid down by the most able masters and educationalists, who advocate a thorough training in the technicalities of the business in which a livelihood is to be hereafter obtained.

RAID ON SUPPOSED COINERS.

At Marlborough-street yesterday, George Keefe, tailor, John Kingston, cab-driver, John Fielde, labourer, Albert Phillips, tin-plate worker, and Louis Steingreberg, licensed victualler, were charged on a search-warrant with knowingly having in their possession, at the Coach and Horses public-house, Little Compton-street, a number of counterfeit coins, with intent to utter them. Detective-sergeant Bowden deposed that on Tuesday evening he and a number of other detective officers entered the Coach and Horses public-house, and, having closed the doors, read the warrant to about thirty persons who were present. A search of the premises was immediately instituted, and he saw base coin found upon Keefe, Kingston, Fielde, and Phillips. In various recesses of the middle bar several packets of counterfeit coin were found, amounting in all to twenty-five half-crowns and thirty shillings. He, in consequence, took Steingreberg, who was the manager of the house, into custody. He remarked, "I am very sorry you have come to-day; I am just going to give up possession. I am innocent of knowing that any base coin is here, although I know I have a funny lot here. I wish I had never seen the house." He and the other men were taken to the station. Some evidence having been given, the prisoners were remanded.

SERIOUS JUDGMENT AGAINST THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL COMPANY.

The Shanghai correspondent of the *Standard* telegraphs:—The English court held here has found that the Peninsular and Oriental Company's steamship *Nepaul* was solely to blame for the recent disastrous collision with a Chinese transport, by which 100 lives were lost. The claims against the company are estimated to amount to nearly £50,000.

SHOCKING MACHINERY ACCIDENT.

A terrible accident happened yesterday morning at a rolling-mill in Marchiennes, Belgium. A fly-wheel, weighing about 90,000 kilogrammes, broke, and split a second fly-wheel, and the two wrecked the iron roof of the building, causing great havoc. Three workmen were killed and thirty-five severely hurt.

THE CATHOLIC UNION OF GREAT BRITAIN.

The first half-yearly meeting of the Catholic Union for 1887 was held yesterday afternoon in Willis's Rooms. In the unavoidable absence of the president, the Duke of Norfolk, the chair was taken by the vice-president, the Marquess of Ripon. There was a good attendance of members. The business comprised the re-election of the Duke of Norfolk as president for the ensuing year, the adoption of an address to the Pope with reference to the recent beatification of fifty-four English martyrs, and a discussion initiated by Mr. St. George Mivart on the desirability of greater scientific culture among Catholics.

MR. IRVING.

In aid of the funds of the Birkbeck Institute, Mr. Irving last night gave a reading of "Hamlet" in the hall of the Institute, which was filled by an audience at ordinary theatre prices. The Lyceum Theatre was closed for the occasion. Mr. Irving read, or rather recited, the tragedy in evening dress, and, except in the case of Hamlet's speeches, made little or no attempt at characterization. He had intended to read the whole of "Hamlet," but, finding that time pressed, he omitted the fourth act, which deals with the death of Ophelia. The reading was listened to throughout with the closest attention.

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

THE EARTHQUAKE IN FRANCE AND ITALY.

GREAT LOSS OF LIFE.

The accounts published this morning of the earthquake in the south of France and the north of Italy show that there was a succession of shocks, and that they extended from Rome to Marseilles and Lyons, and from Genoa to Geneva, a distance of four or five hundred miles in each direction, giving a land space affected of probably not less than 100,000 square miles. The central point of the disturbance appears to have been near the small towns of Porto Maurizio and Diano Marino, on the north-western bend of the Gulf of Genoa. Thence eastward along the seashore the towns of Noli, Savona, and Albissola all are reported to have suffered losses of life and property, though in a less degree. Westward from this centre Mentone seems to have felt the shocks most severely; but at Monaco, Monte Carlo, Nice, and Cannes they were sufficiently powerful to level some of the houses, and throughout the Riviera they produced a complete panic. Telegrams from Rome state that at Savona, on the Gulf of Genoa, eight persons were killed and fifteen injured, and at Diano Marina one-third of the houses have fallen in ruins and a large number of people—300 it is said—have been killed. In the neighbourhood of Bordighera several houses fell in, killing some of the inhabitants. At Noli fifteen persons were killed, and six at Oneglia, while at the latter place twenty-eight others were injured. At Genoa the shock was very violent, the ducal palace and several houses being seriously damaged. The first shock occurred about six o'clock, and was accompanied by a terrifying rumbling of the earth so loud as to awaken sleepers. The inhabitants left their beds and rushed outdoors, many without waiting to dress themselves properly, and the streets and open spaces were soon as crowded as in the busiest period of the day. At the Carlo Felice Theatre a masked ball, the crowning fete of the carnival series, was in progress. The first shock caused a panic. The dance was instantly stopped, and the fantastically dressed people flocked into the streets. Beyond Savona all railway traffic has been suspended, as in several places huge masses of stone which have been loosened from overhanging cliff-brows threaten to fall at any moment. Several tunnels have also sustained damages, which would render it exceedingly dangerous to pass a train through them.

Throughout the Riviera the panic was intense. At Monte Carlo three shocks were felt, between seven and eight in the morning, and there was an immediate rush from the hotels and houses of visitors and residents, many of them in deshabille. During the day the gambling-rooms were all deserted. Almost everybody was camping out, dressing and washing in the open air or in improvised tents, and rows of carriages were kept standing waiting in readiness for fresh trouble. The charges for carriages amounted to 200 fr. (£8) for the night. At Cannes there were four distinct shocks. The town was crammed with visitors, and the alarm and terror were universal. Many persons temporarily abandoned their houses, and not a few arranged to leave at once. Among the English arrivals during the past week, besides the Prince of Wales and his son, were Lady Dora Carnegie, Lady Castletown, Lord Edward Cavendish and his wife, Sir Francis Cook, Lady Eleanor Heneage, Lady Macnamara, Lady Catherine Parker, Colonel F. Russel, the Duchess of Sutherland, and the Earl and Countess of Wicklow. No casualties are reported amongst the members of the English colony. At Mentone there were several fatal accidents. At Nîmes some windows were shattered, all the house-bells rang, and the clocks stopped. At Grenoble nearly all the time-pieces stopped, floors and ceilings were cracked, and furniture was overturned. At Lyons the shocks were very slight, and this seems to have been the northern limit.

THE PANIC AT NICE.

The following is taken from a telegram, dated Nice, Wednesday morning, which has been received in London from Sir Charles Gavan Duffy, who has been residing at Nice for some time past:—

Yesterday Nice was almost delirious with the closing festivities of the carnival. To-day every available carriage in the community is employed at unheard-of fares in carrying the holiday-makers of yesterday to the railway station where clamour and chaos reign as I telegraph. Those visitors who are unable to escape and the permanent population throng the streets in surging crowds, and in the Place Massena, the Jardin Public, the boulevards, and other open spaces preparations are going on to spend the day and night in the open air. Along the slopes of Carabacel huge wagons, used in ordinary times for removing furniture, are being let out for sleeping accommodation. The cabins of the ships at anchor in the harbour have been hired at immense prices for the same purpose, and on the public promenades long rows of chairs are occupied by unfortunate people who left their hotels at daybreak and out of fear have never returned. Hand-carts loaded with bedding, followed by women and children, who apparently do not know where to go, but are determined at any rate not to return to their homes to-night, are to be met with in every thoroughfare. The panic is not confined to any class of society or to any nationality. I have met judges, doctors, merchants, and parsons who share it, many of them sensible and solid Englishmen. The cause of this extraordinary state of things you probably already know. At six o'clock this morning there were two or three successive shocks of earthquake, and there is a general impression, traceable to no rational source, that it will recommence to-night. While the earthquake lasted solid houses rocked like trees in a high wind, and a few minutes later the streets were covered by a half-dressed crowd of both sexes flying from the unknown danger. The justification for this extraordinary and persistent panic is, I think, quite insufficient. No life has been lost here, and only one lady has been severely injured. An inmate of the Convent of St. Sacrament is said to have died of fright, and this is the sum total of the killed and wounded. The damage done to public edifices and private houses has been considerable. The bell and belfry of St. Augustine's have fallen to the ground, and some of the arches of the church of Notre Dame have been injured. The home of the English nurses in the Avenue Delphine has been so badly damaged as to be temporarily uninhabitable, and the inmates have, therefore, found other quarters. Two or three gables have fallen in, and chimney-stacks have here and there given way. Two large hotels have been put into such a dilapidated condition that their guests have left, and some twenty or thirty houses show serious cracks or fissures. The Prince of Wales, who was here yesterday, has left for Monte Carlo on a visit to Sir Frederick Johnstone.

THE EARTHQUAKE PREDICTED.

Several of the Vienna papers draw attention to the fact that Herr Rudolph Fabi predicted to an hour the earthquakes which have just occurred in France and Italy. Several days ago he published a statement to the effect that the annular eclipse of the sun, which commenced on Tuesday evening, at forty-seven minutes past seven, and lasted till twenty-eight minutes to two yesterday morning, and which was visible only in Eastern Asia, Australia, and Western South America, would be accompanied by extremely strong atmospheric and seismic disturbances owing to the coincident influence of the sun and the moon on the earth.

THE MORNING PAPERS.

THE EFFECT OF THE GERMAN ELECTIONS.

The *Times* cannot dispute that the German Government, like the German people, desires the maintenance of European peace on the basis of the existing settlement. In the West, however, as in the East, there are forces working which from time to time threaten to subvert that settlement, and Germany must be prepared to encounter the consequences should the *status quo* be broken up. The fact that Prince Bismarck's hands have been strengthened by the result of his appeal to the German electorate will probably give pause to disturbing ambitions. At the same time it must be admitted that the anti-German feeling in Russia is rising higher and higher, and may provoke a retaliatory outbreak. Germany has received warning, in a quarter where official inspiration is almost openly avowed, that in the event of a war with France she will have to reckon with Russia also, and that Russia is not to be conciliated by concessions in Bulgaria or elsewhere.

The *Standard* says it will constitute a heavy reproach against the foresight of the German Government if, having advanced certain demands in order to stave off war, and after the nation had conceded these demands, it were to argue that war was as imminent and as inevitable as ever. Prince Bismarck has a great reputation to maintain; and he is not likely to throw it away in a struggle which he himself has declared may be avoided. Were he to renew the professions of alarm of which he was so lavish when urging the acceptance of the Army Bill, his countrymen might think, and foreigners would unquestionably think, that war has become with him a foregone conclusion. Europe ought, not unreasonably, to be able to entertain the hope that one of the first results of the electoral victory achieved by the German Government will be a temporary appeasement, at least, of its anxieties. More one cannot say; for it is impossible to forget that if war-clouds should be dispersed in the West, they are still thick in the East.

THE BATTLE FOR SUPREMACY IN IRELAND.

The *Standard* remarks that the battle for supremacy in Ireland has now been fairly joined, and if hitherto the fortune of the day has not inclined as definitely to the side of order and right as honest men would wish, the fault is not to be ascribed either to the apathy or the faintheartedness of the statesmen responsible for carrying on the Queen's Government in Ireland. The sympathy and connivance of English Home Rulers place one great obstacle in the way; but it is an obstacle that can be surmounted only by being defied. Sir Michael Beach, once he is armed with adequate powers for repressing criminal menace and combination, must not hesitate to use them. We have heard too much and too long of corporations that calmly refuse to levy rates for the amount due for police services; of members of Parliament who preach openly the doctrine of seditious resistance to law; of organized machinery for forcing a whole country to submit to the decrees of a few hole-and-corner despots. The struggle may be hard; but, if energetically persisted in, it will be short. The yoke of boycotting is impatiently borne by many who dare not freely avow that they are sick and weary of the imposture called Nationalism. If the Government set themselves resolutely to vindicate the law in Ireland, they will not be long in discovering that they are welcomed as the deliverers of great masses of the Irish people.

The *Daily News* declares that the proceedings in Ireland at this moment are a mockery of our pretensions to be a free people. Every true Liberal is ashamed of jury-packing, State trials of representatives of the people, suppressions of meetings, and of a police government which can be paralleled in English history only by the worst days of King George III. We have a right, therefore, as Lord Herschell says, to ask all who desire better things for Ireland to abandon the merely negative attitude, and to join in producing and carrying a measure which will satisfy the reasonable demands of the Irish people and the just susceptibilities of the most jealous stickler for imperial unity.

THE PRINCIPLE OF MR. GLADSTONE'S IRISH SCHEME.

The *Times* observes that we have heard a great many times what Lord Herschell said yesterday—that the details of Mr. Gladstone's Irish scheme are, and always have been, open to modification to meet the views of his followers, always provided that the principle is maintained intact; but it is the Protean character of the principle that creates all the difficulty. When Mr. Gladstone thought he was going to get a majority, the principle was a separate Legislature for Ireland with an Executive responsible thereto. When the majority becomes unattainable and the object is to lure wanderers back to the fold, then the principle is only that the Irish people should have greater control over their local affairs. On the first reading of the principle Mr. Chamberlain cannot join Mr. Gladstone without being false to all he has professed. On the second reading there is no particular reason why he should join Mr. Gladstone, because the principle is just as fully held by Lord Hartington and the Home Secretary. The conciliation version may be a comfortable thing for round tables; but it does not furnish a platform for a reconciled party, because it equally belongs to the Conservatives and the Liberal Unionists.

The *Manchester Guardian* concludes that the alternative policy to Home Rule is a policy of mere negation and despair; that we are so badly off in Ireland already that we cannot possibly be worse, and that the success of a well-planned measure of Home Rule may be inferred from the analogy of other countries, from the conviction that Irish nature is much the same as human nature everywhere, and from the geographical and commercial position of Ireland, which is as much opposed to separation as it is to absolute identity with the greater island sixty miles away.

MIDLOTHIANISM.

The *Morning Post* maintains that our present methods of treating controversy may be traced from the year 1878, and the period when Mr. Gladstone emerged from his long retirement stripped of all the chivalry of his younger politics, and resolved for the future to do battle less on knightly than on gladiatorial principles. Midlothianism is the subversion of Constitutionalism; party exigencies are no longer looked upon as the inevitable friction which mars the best possible type of government which is found workable. On the contrary, much of the language now held about them would seem to indicate that they are to be taken from the lowest place in the system and thrust into the highest as being the motive power of all government. This is seen by the constant assurances of several well-known Radicals that no good piece of legislation can be accomplished while the Tories are in power. Such a statement implies much more than the common fallacy that legislation is the paramount aim of Government. It assumes also the much wilder hypothesis that legislation, to be good, must be partisan. Thus we see the worst phase of the least essential part of practical government made to do duty for the whole system. Again, having exalted embittered legislation to the first place, the school which Mr. Gladstone invented, and which Mr. Goschen so forcibly condemns, has taken the first real duty of the House of Commons and nailed it, as it were, to the chariot-wheel of the usurper. Discussion on Supply as a grave judicial proceeding of national import, removed by its intrinsic character from the arena of partisanship, and claiming to be treated with an impartial sense of responsibility, is a lost conception to the Midlothian school. Supply is now the Proteus under whose various disguises the unceasing enmity to the Ministry of the day can be made effective.

LITERARY NOTES.

The Greek play selected for representation at Cambridge this year is the "Œdipus Tyrannus," and not "Œdipus Coloneus" as has been reported.

Mr. H. Armitage, of Jesus College, is at work on a book about "The Cam and Cambridge Rowing."

Dr. Hubert Holden is preparing an edition of Xenophon's "Cyropædeia" for the Cambridge University Press. It will have an introduction and notes.

Count Vitthum's volume of "Reminiscences of St. Petersburg and London" which Mr. Henry Reeve is editing is just ready for publication. Messrs. Longman and Co. are the publishers.

An interesting gift has just been made to the University of Cambridge. It consists of three volumes containing the designs and plans made by the late Mr. Cockerell for the University Library. The donor is Mrs. Cockerell. The work has been deposited in the registry of the university.

Mr. Edwin Booth, the actor, has just made a gift of 700 volumes to the Winter Memorial Library at New Brighton, U.S.A.

Mr. William Douglas's "Duelling Days in the Army" will be issued in a few days by Messrs. Ward and Downey.

Dr. James Brown is at work on "A Memoir of the late William D. Robertson, D.D., of Irvine." It will consist chiefly of letters; but extracts from Dr. Robertson's poems will be given. Messrs. Maclehose, of Glasgow, are to be the publishers.

It may interest collectors to learn that a volume of corrected proofs of Mr. Ruskin's early poems, some of which were written at Oxford, is in the market. The volume is in the hands of a private person, who offers to part with it for cash to the highest bidder.

The Incorporated Society of Authors propose to hold a series of three conferences in Willis's Rooms, on Wednesdays, March 2, 9, and 16, on matters relating to the protection and maintenance of literary and dramatic property.

There is to be published immediately by Messrs. Longman and Co. a travesty of Mr. Rider Haggard's story "She." The writer is the author of "Much Darker Days."

The new part (Part III.: Batter—Boz) of Dr. Murray's "New English Dictionary" will be ready next month. There will be a prefatory note, stating how the work is to be carried on in the future in order to obtain more speedy publication.

Mr. Darab Dasher Peshotan Sanjana, the Parsee Priest of Bombay, has just issued, through Mr. Henry Frowde, of Amen-corner, the second and concluding volume of his English translation of Dr. W. Geiger's works on "The Civilization of the Eastern Iranians in the Ancient Times." This portion treats of the Old Iranian Polity and the Age of the Avesta, including a translation of Dr. F. Spiegel's monograph on Iranian Art, and a discussion by Dr. E. W. West, with fac-simile, of the Sassanian inscription of Nagsh-i-Rustem.

"Thyræ," a new story by Mr. George Gissing, author of "Demos: a Socialist Study," will be put into circulation very shortly. Other new novels to be published soon are—Mr. William Black's story of every-day life to-day among the poor, entitled, "Sabina Zembra;" Mr. Thomas Hardy's study of country folk, "The Woodlanders;" Mr. E. Erule Money's new story, "A Little Dutch Maiden;" "Driven before the Storm," by Miss Gertrude Forde; and a translation of the Marchesa Colombi's romance, "In the Rice Fields."

Messrs. Putnam are about to publish a book of sketches and impressions, musical, theatrical, and social (1799-1885) of Mr. Thomas Goodwin, whose father held the post of music librarian to Covent Garden Theatre for more than fifty years. In it will be found records of the elder Harris, of Kemble, Mrs. Siddons, Bishop, Mrs. Mellon, Miss Foote, the Keans, Miss O'Neil, G. F. Cooke, Grimaldi, Goodwin, Irving, Miss Terry, Macready, the Kembles, Forrest, Charlotte Cushman, and other notable actors and actresses. Besides which some account is given of the founding of the Royal Academy of Music in London and of the Philharmonic Society of New York.

"Two Royal Lives," Miss Dorothea Roberts's new work on the Crown Prince and Princess of Germany, is being published this week by Mr. T. Fisher Unwin. It contains several new photographs of the Prince and Princess and their children, and illustrations descriptive of the home-life of the royal family.

Messrs. Sampson Low and Co. are publishing for English readers an edition of Admiral Raphael Semmes's story of the famous cruisers *Sumter* and *Alabama*. The book is entitled, "Service Afloat." It is fully illustrated.

Under the title "My College Days," Mr. R. Menzies Fergusson is editing the autobiography of an old student. Mr. Alexander Gardner is the publisher.

Two articles likely to interest the public in the new numbers of the magazines just ready are the Marquess of Lorne's paper on Canada, dealing especially with the fisheries dispute, in the *Fortnightly Review*, and Lord Wolseley's paper on "General Lee," in *Macmillan's Magazine*.

A new edition of Granville Penn's "Book of the New Covenant" is announced for early publication by Mr. Elliot Stock. Before the days of official Biblical revision this translation of the New Testament had considerable popularity.

The London Chamber of Commerce, in accordance with the recommendation of Mr. Froude, Sir Rawson Rawson, and Professor Seeley, has decided to publish the six essays on the Imperial Institute which these gentlemen considered to be the best of those submitted in the Chamber's recent prize competitions. The essays will be published shortly in one volume by Messrs. Swan Sonnenschein and Co.

The State of California has been offered the unique library formed by Mr. Hubert Howe Bancroft for the sum of 250,000 dols. Mr. Bancroft collected this library as the foundation for his series of works on the Pacific States and Territories. The value placed upon it is less than the outlay incurred by Mr. Bancroft, who for twenty-five years was collecting works through special agents in all parts of the world. The library contains the fullest collection of documents, records, and printed books ever brought together in connection with the State of California. It includes a mass of invaluable manuscript records obtained directly from the old pioneers, and it also embraces full collections relating to every Pacific Coast State, to Mexico, and Central America. Among them are masses of original manuscripts, rare old works (some of them probably unique), maps and charts, ecclesiastical and State archives, and historical material of every conceivable character. The New York papers call upon the State of California to secure the library, as to permit such a treasure to be dispersed in the auctioneer's rooms would be to perpetrate a vandalism which must permanently discredit the State.

TRADE AND FINANCE.

Yesterday being the first day of the Stock Exchange Settlement there was but a slight demand for loans for the Stock Exchange. The rates ranged from $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 per cent., or nearly the same as a fortnight ago. From this alone it would seem that the account must have lessened, since, undoubtedly, the value of money has tended upwards during the fortnight, the revenue payments having been very large, and the Bank of England having got greater control over the outside market. It is further evident that the demand for the Stock Exchange must have been exceptionally small yesterday from the fact that the same rate was charged to bill-brokers and district houses for five days' and seven days' loans as was charged to the Stock Exchange for an account which will include nineteen days. The past fortnight has been exceptionally dull; business having been almost completely stagnant. Neither investors nor speculators have operated, the one expecting to buy on more favourable terms, and the other being afraid to increase their risks. It is true that during the past week or so there has been a buying back by speculators for the fall of some portion of the stocks they had sold but did not possess. And it is evident from the rates charged within the Stock Exchange on some of the stocks that this has been done. But on the whole it appears clear that the account is smaller than it was a fortnight ago, and that there is still a considerable speculative account open for the fall in Foreign Government bonds. Within the Stock Exchange, for example, as much as $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. was charged for the loan of Hungarian Gold Rente, being at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum; on Portuguese there was a similar charge, and likewise upon Russians of 1873. On the other hand, there was a slight increase in the rate charged for permission to postpone payment on Egyptian Unified Bonds—the rate this time being 3 per cent., whereas last time it was only 2 per cent.; but Egyptian Preference was again rather scarce, and generally rates were very low. On American Railroad securities rates ranged generally from 4 to 6 per cent. On Home Railway stocks the rates were also easy. In the case of North-Eastern, Great Eastern, and District they were from 1-16 to 1-32 lower. In most others they were the same as last time; but on London and North-Western stock the charge increased 1-16 per cent. On Grand Trunk of Canada stocks, except the Third Preference, the rates were the same as a fortnight ago; but they were somewhat higher on Mexican Railway stocks. Altogether, it is evident from these rates, and from the slight demand for loans, that there is still a considerable speculation for the fall open in Foreign Government bonds, and that the account in other stocks is small and likely to continue so.

The Bank of England yesterday received gold to the amount of £18,000, making the total receipts during the week £152,000. Yesterday, being the first day of the Stock Exchange Settlement, the rates of interest continued high, the revenue payments being at the present moment very large. The supply of loanable capital in the outside market is small, and therefore the rates for short loans tend upwards. At the same time, although the Stock Exchange Settlement is an exceedingly small one, and the demand for accommodation, therefore, exceptionally light, still there is some demand, which tends to raise the value of money. On the other hand, the rate of discount is easy, the quotation yesterday being about 3 per cent. There was an impression among some brokers and some of the discount houses that to-day the directors of the Bank of England would lower their rate of discount. The Bank is exceptionally strong, if we confine our attention to purely home affairs. Unquestionably the reserve has greatly increased of late, while the proportion to liabilities is extraordinarily high; and therefore there seemed to the market, which looks at it from a purely market point of view, some ground for expecting a reduction in the rate. But to any one who extends his view from the narrow limits of the London market to the European situation it seems clearly unwise to make any change. Just now the revenue payments are coming in exceedingly well; the Bank is getting control of the outside market, and there is a chance of increasing the stock of gold. Consequently, while some were expecting a reduction of the rate, the majority were distinctly of opinion that no change ought to be made. Nevertheless, bills being scarce, the rate of discount, as we have said, tended downwards.

The stock markets opened very firm yesterday morning and with a buoyant tendency, and the improvement continued all day in American, Mexican, and Home Railway stocks; but in Foreign Government bonds there was a change towards the close. In American Railroad securities the rise was from $\frac{1}{4}$ to 1, in Home Railway stocks about the same; but Brighton A rose as much as $1\frac{1}{2}$, and South-Eastern Deferred $1\frac{1}{2}$; these stocks being more than others under the influence of speculative manipulation. In Mexican Railway stocks there was a remarkable rise. At one time the Second Preference was 4 higher than at the close of the day before. Some of the rise was subsequently lost; but the Second Preference stock closed $2\frac{1}{2}$ higher than the preceding day, the First Preference closed $1\frac{1}{2}$ higher, and the Ordinary stocks $1\frac{1}{2}$. In Foreign Government bonds there was a considerable rise early in the day. In Hungarian Gold Rentes and Russian of 1873, the rise led to considerable selling, and both closed lower, in consequence, than on the preceding day; but Austrian Gold Rentes closed 1 higher, and Egyptians from $\frac{1}{8}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ higher.

The India Council yesterday offered for tender 30 lakhs of rupees in bills upon the Presidency Treasuries and in telegraphic transfers, and sold 30 1-5 lakhs, of which 22 lakhs were in telegraphic transfers. Applicants for the bills at 1s. 5 11-16d. per rupee were allotted the full amounts applied for, as were applicants for the transfers at 1s. 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per rupee. A week ago the same amount was offered for tender, but only 16 lakhs were sold. It appears, therefore, that the demand was much more active yesterday than on the preceding Wednesday. On the other hand, the price yesterday was lower than that of a week ago. A week ago 1s. 5 29-32d. per rupee was obtained for the telegraphic transfers, against 1s. 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. yesterday (which is equivalent to 1s. 5 24-32d.), being a fall of 5-32 per rupee. Upon the Indian trade, and therefore upon the Indian exchanges as upon all other departments of business, the political uncertainties and apprehensions are evidently exercising a depressing effect.

ANOTHER ENGLISH GRIEVANCE.

"A Stepney Lamb" writes to us complaining of an unfair advantage which the police have over certain classes of the English public. He much prefers, he says, the Irish method. His reasons are rather cogent. He says:—

I am well known to the police. I've heard 'em tell the beak so times out of mind. And yet, somehow, though I know 'em so well, we're not friends. They're too fond of litigashun, and if I have a little disagreement with 'em, as I somehow do now and then, nothin' will do but we must go before the Beak to settle which of us is in the right; and it generally ends in my gettin' quadded. Now, Sir, they manidge this sort of thing much better over in Ireland, and I quite agrees with Mr. Gladstone that over 'ere in England we are a pig-headed lot and for everythink thats tip top and noble you must go to the Irish for it. And if I 'ad a vote—which I ain't—the old gen'l'man should 'ave it. Sir, when I read in the papers, as I do most every day now, of 150, or maybe 200 Coppers 'avin to turn tail before a few 'underd men, women, and boys, it makes me downright jellous, and I asks myself, Why can't we do that sort of thing over 'ere? Why, I reckon, not so long ago neither, as there was a lot of us as 'ad 'ad a 'igh old time in South Audley-street. When we come up into Oxford-street we meets a 'andful of Coppers. We was more than twenty to one of 'em; but they wouldn't run, not they, so we was forced to.

Sir, There must be summut wrong. What's the difference between an Irish Copper and an English, that one should 'ave to go back most allers, and t'other should allers go forrard? 'Taint fair, and Mr. Gladstone, since I did my last turn in 'Olloway Jail, in the Spring of last year, 'as come to the same conclusion, and says that the Irish is to be our patterns in everythink. Now, dear Sir, it can be managed quite easy. All you've got to do to the English Copper is to give 'im a rifle, and tell 'im that he must carry it, but will 'ave to stand his trial for murder if so be he goes to use it. Things would go much pleasanter for the likes of me if this 'ere werry necessary reform was only carried out over 'ere. When a copper's got to carry a 'eavy rifle in 'is right 'and he might just as well 'ave his right arm in a bloomin' sling for all the good it is to 'im; for you see, Sir, he 'as only got 'is left arm then for to defend hisself or to arrest anybody, which makes things comfortable for the other side. Please use your influence to 'ave this werry necessary reform in the English Police carried out. If so be you aven't got room in your valuable paper for this 'ere letter, will you be so kind, dear Sir, as to send it on to Sir William 'Arcourt? 'im as was so 'aughty when 'e was 'Ome Secretary, but 'as now turned over a new leaf, and is quite friendly like to them as comes into kerlishin with the Coppers—in Ireland.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

SONS.
BENTINCK, Countess Godard, at Middachten, in the Netherlands, Feb. 21.
HANBURY, Mrs. Edgar, at Eastrop Grange, High-worth, Feb. 19.
SMITH, Mrs. Gerard, at The Acacias, Upper Clapton, Feb. 15.
WITTS, wife of Rev. Francis E. B., at Upper Slaughter, Gloucestershire, Feb. 22.
WOLLOMBE, wife of Rev. J. H. B., at Horn-church, Essex, Feb. 22.
YOUNG, Mrs. Morgan H., at Birchington-road, Kilburn, Feb. 20.

DAUGHTERS.
BOURDILLON, Mrs. F. W., at Rother Lea, Midhurst, Sussex, Feb. 18.
BRUDENELL-BRUCE, Lady Robert, Feb. 21.
Codd, wife of Walter, LL.D., at Prince's-road, Feb. 18.
FORSTER, Mrs. James, at The Avenue, High Barnet, Feb. 19.
OFFENHEIM, Mrs. Alfred, at Redcliffe-road, South Kensington, S.W., Feb. 22.
WILLIAMS, wife of Mr. D. A. V. Colt, Barrister-at-Law, at Richmond House, Boughton, Chester, Feb. 22.

MARRIAGES.

CORRY—MEAKIN.—At Holy Trinity Church, Anerley-road, S.E., William Corry, M.D., J.P., of Drumquin, county Tyrone, to Lily, daughter of the late Mr. William Meakin, of Walthamstow, Essex, and H.M. Customs, London, Feb. 22.
EDMETT—L'AKER.—At King-street Church, Maidstone, William, son of Mr. George Edmett, J.P., of The Elms, Maidstone, to Mary F., daughter of the late Mr. Thomas L'aker, of Liverpool, and Sandwich, Kent, Feb. 16.
JAMES—DRIFFIELD.—At the Parish Church, Prescott, David James, M.D. (Univ. Edin.), of St. Mary's, Ashton-upon-Mersey, to Letitia K., daughter of the late Mr. Walter W. Driffeld, of Liverpool and Prescott, Feb. 17.
LUCAS—DE STERN.—At Queen's-gate, S.W., Mr. Francis A. Lucas, of Cleveland-row, St. James's, and Sonning, Berks, son of the late Mr. Sampson Lucas, of Gloucester-square, to Alice T., daughter of the late Viscount De Stern, Feb. 22.
McKECHNIE—PROUT.—At St. Mark's, Nottingham, W., Rev. Alexander McKechnie, Vicar of Wickhambrook, Newmarket, to Harriet E., daughter of the late Rev. William Prout, Vicar of Lakenheath, Suffolk, Feb. 19.

MERRIMAN—VAILLANT.—At St. Mary Abbot's, Kensington, George L., son of the late Mr. Charles A. Merriman, of Kautsford, Cheshire, to Florence, widow of Mr. Lionel Vaillant, of Weybridge, Feb. 22.
SHEPHERDSON—JAMES.—At St. Mary's, Scarborough, Mr. William Shepherdson to Margaret A., widow of Mr. John C. James; both of Scarborough, Feb. 19.
SINCLAIR—MANSON.—At St. Andrew's, Aberdeen, Dr. James E. Sinclair, of New-road, Chatham, to Mary L., widow of Dr. D. Manson, of Strathpeffer, N.B., Feb. 22.
SITWELL—COOKE.—At St. Edmund's, Hardings-stone, Northants, Mr. Claude G. H. Sitwell, 85th Light Infantry, to Amy E. B., daughter of Mr. Robert B. Cooke, of Scarborough, Feb. 22.
SMITH—WALEY.—At Kuseong, India, Arthur J., son of the late Dr. J. A. Smith, of Bredford, Cape Colony, to Margaret, daughter of the late Captain Douglas Wale, H.E.I.C.S., Harbour Master of Mauritius, Jan. 19.
WOOD—ARDEN.—At Dunsford, Devon, Captain Charles K. Wood, R.E., to Lilian, daughter of Rev. G. Arden, of Dunsford, Feb. 16.

DEATHS.

ANDERSON, Grace G.C., widow of Rev. Archibald, Minister of Craithie, at Dean's Cross, Dunkeld, N.B., aged 87, Feb. 22.
BLAKE, Mr. Richard J. W., at Holland-road, Kensington, aged 73, Feb. 21.
BOVELL, Sarah L., widow of Mr. John R., of Demerara, at Wyndham-place, Bryanston-square, London, W., aged 74, Feb. 19.
CUNDALL, Ann, widow of Mr. Thomas, of The Paragon, New Kent-road, and Bermondsey, aged 89, Feb. 20.
DAVIES, Edward W., late Lieutenant Royal Canadian Rifle Regiment, at St. John's, near Montreal, Canada, aged 53, Jan. 1.
DUKE, General Thomas A., at Queen's-gardens, Hyde Park, aged 82, Feb. 22.
FORSTER, Mr. Thomas B. W., of Holt Manor, Wiltshire, at Princes-street, Hanover-square, aged 64, Feb. 22.
LOSH, Mr. Baldwin, at Ryde, aged 82, Feb. 18.
METCALFE, Mr. Francis, late of Shenfield, Essex, at Brighton, aged 73, Feb. 21.

MORGAN, Lieutenant Charles C. T., 2nd Brigade, Welsh Div., R.A., son of Rev. S. C. Morgan, D.D., Vicar of St. Mary's, Llanymonaghan, Feb. 16.
PEYTON, Mr. Richard, of Moseley, Birmingham, at Gloucester-place, Ealing, aged 82, Feb. 22.
REES, Matilda, wife of Mr. George Thomas, of River-terrace, Sunbury-on-Thames, Middlesex, at Guy's Hospital, aged 31, Feb. 22.
RICHARDSON, Mr. Guildford W. D., B.A., Trin. Coll., Camb., son of Mr. Guildford B. Richardson, of Shooter's-hill-road, Blackheath, and Pall-mall, London, aged 39, Feb. 21.
ROYLE, Sarah, widow of Mr. John B., late of Mileham, Norfolk, at Preston-street, Brighton, Feb. 19.
WATKINS, Elizabeth, of Maids-vale, W., daughter of the late Mr. Benjamin Watkins, at Upper Norwood, Feb. 20.
WATSON, Isabella H., widow of Mr. David, at Belmont-crescent, Glasgow, Feb. 22.
WILSON, Admiral William C. F., C.B., R.N., at Shelley Lodge, Worthing, Feb. 21.

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Messrs. Panmure Gordon, Hill, and Co., Hatton-court, Threadneedle-street, E.C.

SECRETARY AND OFFICES (pro tem.). F. E. Hersee, Esq., 144, Leadenhall-street, E.C.

ABRIDGED PROSPECTUS.

This Company has been formed for the purpose of taking over (as a going concern, as from 31st December, 1886) and working and extending the well-known business of R. W. Winfield and Company, manufacturers of brass and iron work of every description, including chandeliers, gas-fittings, bedsteads, tubes, wire, art metal-work, and also artists in stained glass; in addition to which the firm have, in recent years, added electric lighting.

The firm was established in the year 1829, and has been since successfully carried on, the books showing that during the 15 years to 30th June last, to which date the accounts have been annually made up, profits to the amount of £203,443 have been actually drawn out in cash, besides additions to the capital, as shown by the accountant's report referred to below.

The premises at Birmingham are leasehold for terms expiring in 1930 and 1938, and cover an area of about eight acres; are well situated in Cambridge-street and Tindal-street, abutting on the canal, and intersected by branches thereof, and the leases are extremely valuable. The works occupied by the business cover 4½ acres. The remainder produces an income considerably in excess of the rent payable by the Company for the whole property, and the Company thus not only stands rent free, but has a profit income from the leases. The premises in London are also well adapted for the business.

With the view to arranging terms for the transfer of the business to the Company and for ascertaining the profits, an examination of the books of the firm has been made by Messrs. Good, Daniels, and Co., Chartered Accountants, of 57, Moorgate-street, London, and their report has been submitted to the Directors, who, judging from past profits (which have averaged for many years nearly £15,000 per annum), and the present activity of the business, are satisfied that it is one from which highly satisfactory results may be expected. Messrs. Good, Daniels, and Co.'s report can be seen at the offices of the Company's Solicitors, 47, Cornhill, E.C.

The price which the vendors have agreed to accept for the entire business as a going concern as from the 31st December, 1886, with the premises, plant, machinery, stock-in-trade, and all assets, except book-debts, is the sum of £113,000, payable £103,000 in cash, and £10,000 in the Ordinary Shares of the Company, issued as fully paid, which Ordinary Shares will not be entitled to any dividend until 7 per cent. has been paid to the holders of the Preference Shares.

With regard to the property, valuations were recently made for the purposes of probate and partnership, and those valuations have formed the basis of the vendors' estimate of value. Those valuations have now been again submitted to Messrs. Chesire and Gibson, and Messrs. Thomas and Bettridge, of Birmingham, whose instructions on behalf of the Company were to examine and value the property and prepare a detailed inventory of the buildings, motive-power and gearing, fixed plant and machinery, loose plant and utensils, gas, steam, and water fittings, and of the London premises, fixtures and plant therein. The said valuations, which amount to £81,750, can be seen at the offices of the Company's Solicitors.

The stock-books have been examined by Messrs. Thomas and Bettridge, who certify the value of the stock at 31st December last to be £61,261. This certificate can also be seen at the offices of the Company's Solicitors.

The very valuable goodwill, patents, registered designs, and trade-mark, of which there are many—as specified in the agreement—are included in the sale, and for which no payment is made.

The terms of sale will leave as working capital £17,000, which is ample, as the Company will start with a sufficient stock-in-trade.

Full prospectuses and forms of application can be obtained on application to

F. E. HERSEE, Secretary (pro tem.). 144, Leadenhall-street, London, E.C.

ACCIDENT ASSURANCE

transacted by the ATLAS FIRE AND LIFE OFFICE. Established 1803. West-end Office, 32, Cockspur-street. Head Office, 92, Cheapside. Secretary, SAM'L J. PIPKIN.

NORTHERN ASSURANCE

COMPANY. Established 1836. LONDON: 1, Moorgate-street, E.C. ABERDEEN: 1, Union-terrace.

INCOME AND FUNDS (1885). Fire Premiums...£577,000 | Life Premiums £197,000 Interest...£132,000 Accumulated Funds...£3,134,000

THE ENGLISH AND SCOTTISH MERCANTILE INVESTMENT TRUST, LIMITED. CAPITAL, £500,000, in 100,000 Shares of £5 each. Issue of the Unallotted Portion of £250,000 at par. These Shares are divided into equal Moieties of Preferred and Deferred Shares, and are allotted to applicants accordingly. Each Subscriber receives for each two Shares applied for one Preferred Share and one Deferred Share. The Preferred Shares are entitled to a Preferential Dividend of 5 per cent. per annum, and the Deferred Shares to all the surplus net income.

TRUSTEES.

LEWIS H. ISAACS, Esq., M.P., Chairman (Director of the Metropolitan District Railway).

WILLIAM A. BEVAN, Esq.

R. A. GEMMAINE, Esq., M.A.

T. G. H. GYNN, Esq.

Sir W. GUYER HUNTER, K.C.M.G., M.P.

Sir ROGER LETHBRIDGE, C.I.E., M.P.

H. SETON-KARR, Esq., M.P.

BANKERS.

In England.—The Capital and Counties Bank (Head Office), 39, Threadneedle-street, London, and all its Branches.

The National Bank of Scotland, 37, Nicholas-lane, Lombard-street, London, E.C.

In Scotland.—The National Bank of Scotland, Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Branches throughout Scotland.

BROKERS.

Messrs. Joshua Hutchinson and Son, 15, Angel-court, London.

Messrs. Horsfall Brothers, Queen Insurance-buildings, Liverpool.

Mr. John Pilling, 14, St. Ann's-square, Manchester.

Mr. T. Gillford, 26, Broad-street, Bristol.

AGENTS AND BROKERS IN SCOTLAND. Messrs. Auld and MacEwan, 75, Buchanan-street, Glasgow.

SOLICITOR.

John Mitchell Mitchell, Esq., 110, Cannon-street, London.

AUDITORS.

Messrs. Cooper Brothers and Co., George-street, Mansion House, London.

SECRETARY.—Mr. James Best.

HEAD OFFICES.—58, Lombard-street, London, E.C.

OFFICES IN SCOTLAND.—75, Buchanan-street, Glasgow.

THE ENGLISH AND SCOTTISH MERCANTILE INVESTMENT TRUST, LIMITED.

ISSUE OF UNALLOTTED CAPITAL.

Dividends at the following rates per annum have been paid:—Quarter ended 30th September, 1886—

On Preference Shares..... 5 per cent.

On Deferred Shares..... 7 " "

Quarter ended 31st December, 1886—

On Preference Shares..... 5 per cent.

On Deferred Shares..... 8 " "

A further 4 per cent. being carried to reserve.

ABRIDGED PROSPECTUS.

The Trustees of "THE ENGLISH AND SCOTTISH MERCANTILE INVESTMENT TRUST, LIMITED," encouraged by the success with which the operations of the Trust have been attended, have decided on issuing the unallotted portion of the 50,000 shares originally offered, payable as follows:—

£1 on Application.

£2 on Allotment.

It is not intended to make further calls; but any shareholder may pay up in full the uncalled balance of his shares, and on all such prepayments interest will be paid at the rate of 4½ per cent. per annum. This Company was established in June, 1886, for the purpose of investing the moneys of its shareholders in Government Stocks and other Securities of a sound financial character, so as to bring within the reach of both large and small investors the means of obtaining a high and steady rate of interest, combined with practical immunity from risk. By thus employing the capital already subscribed (10,251 shares), the trustees have been enabled to pay dividends and lay the foundation of a reserve fund, as stated above.

The Trustees have investments in—Foreign and Colonial Government Bonds; Colonial Corporation Stocks; Railway Shares and Debentures; Banks and Insurance Companies; and A selection of the best Miscellaneous Securities quoted on the London and Provincial Stock Exchanges.

On application to the Secretary, the Register of Securities may be inspected.

The investments already made are in Securities ordinarily dealt in, and quoted in the Official Lists of the London and Provincial Stock Exchanges. There are, however, many other perfectly sound Securities which offer a safe field for profitable investment, and by means of which the Trustees confidently anticipate that Dividends can be earned beyond the rates already paid. In the most eligible of these, as opportunity offers, a portion of the funds of the Company will be invested.

The Trustees do not invest more than one-fiftieth of the Capital in any one Security, except under special circumstances such as, on careful consideration, appear to justify them in exceeding that limit.

The Trustees will continue to set aside out of the profits of each year such a sum as they may think desirable for the purpose of a Reserve Fund, and for the equalization of dividends.

Prospectuses and Forms of Application may be obtained of the Bankers, Brokers, and Secretary of the Company. Applications for Shares may also be made by letter addressed to the Secretary, from whom a copy of the last Balance-Sheet may also be procured.

By order of the Trustees, JAMES BEST, Secretary.

London, February, 1887.

PROVIDENT LIFE OFFICE

(Founded 1806), 50, REGENT-STREET, W., and 14, CORNHILL, E.C., LONDON.

Invested Funds.....£2,485,955

Annual Income.....319,215

Claims and Surrenders paid exceed...8,000,000

Bonuses declared.....2,629,814

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.

HALF-CREDIT SYSTEM.—Merchants, Traders, and others requiring the full use of their Capital, and desiring a Life Policy at the cheapest present outlay, are invited to examine the terms of the Half-Credit System of this office.

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

CHARLES STEVENS, Actuary and Secretary.

LLOYDS BARNETTS and BOSANQUETS BANK LIMITED.

Subscribed Capital, 93,750 Shares of £50 each.....£4,687,500

Capital—Paid up (£8 per Share)...750,000

Reserved fund.....360,000

DIRECTORS.

THOMAS SALT, Esq., M.P., Chairman.

Edward Brodie Hoare, Esq., Deputy-Chairman.

Charles Edward Barnett, Esq.

Bernard Tindal Bosanquet, Esq.

Edward Gem, Esq.

Samuel Hoare, Esq., M.P.

J. Arthur Kenrick, Esq.

George Braithwaite Lloyd, Esq.

Richard Borradaile Lloyd, Esq.

Sampson Samuel Lloyd, Esq.

Thomas Lloyd, Esq.

John Spencer Phillips, Esq.

John Charles Salt, Esq.

George Dunbar Whatman, Esq.

General Manager—HOWARD LLOYD, Esq.

PLACES OF BUSINESS.

Registered Office.—62, Lombard-street, London E.C.

Chief Country Office and Share Department.—Birmingham.

LONDON:—City—59, Lombard-street, E.C.; West end—54, St. James's-street, S.W.; Pimlico—42, Denbigh-street, Belgrave-road, S.W.; West Kensington—42, Hammersmith-road, W.

BIRMINGHAM:—Colmore-row, High-street, Aston-road, Deritend, Five-way, Great Hampton-street.

BURTON-ON-TRENT: Leamington Lichfield Cannock Tamworth

COVENTRY: Darlaston Longton Walsall

DUDLEY: Enfield Newport (Salop) Wednesbury

GREAT BRIDGE: Oldbury Wellington (Salop)

HALESOWEN: Rugby Welshpool (Salop)

HAMPSHIRE: Shifnal West Bromwich

HANDSWORTH: Shrewsbury Whitechurch (Salop)

HAULEY: Smethwick Wolverhampton

IRONBRIDGE: Stafford

BLOXWICH: Ellesmere Oxted

BREWSTER: Harborne Penkridge

CATERHAM: Hednesford Solihull

COLESHILL: Kenilworth Southampton

COLESHILL: Moseley Sutton Coldfield

ECCLESHALL: Oakengates Tenbury

STATEMENT OF LIABILITIES AND ASSETS on the 31st DECEMBER 1886.

LIABILITIES.

Subscribed Capital (being 93,750 Shares of £50 each).....£4,687,500 0 0

Capital called up, viz., 93,750 Shares at £8 per Share...£750,000 0 0

Reserved Fund....360,000 0 0

Debts owing to sundry persons by the Company—

On Bills or Notes accepted or endorsed.....324,378 11 1

On Deposit, Current, and other Accounts.....9,835,373 11 5

Profit (including £4,743 17s. 11d. brought forward from last year)...£124,598 7 5

Less Interim Dividend for half-year ending 30th June at 15 per cent. per annum, £56,250

Income Tax on Dividends for the year, £3,750.....60,000 0 0

Balance, proposed to be appropriated as follows:—

In payment of half-year's dividend to 31st December, at 15 per cent. per annum...£56,250

To be carried forward to next year, £8,348 7s. 5d.....£64,598 7 5

£11,334,350 9 11

ASSETS.

Cash in Hand with Bank of England, at Call and Short Notice...£2,451,722 17 6

Bills of Exchange.....1,427,652 3 8

Consols and other British and Indian Government Securities.....£1,651,217 15 0

Colonial Government Securities, Corporation Stocks, English Railway Preference Stocks, and Sundry Investments.....960,510 17 3

Advances to Customers, Promissory Notes, and other Securities....4,279,314 4 1

Liabilities of Customers for Bills accepted or endorsed by the Company.....324,378 11 1

Bank Premises and Furniture....239,554 11 4

£11,334,350 9 11

HOWARD LLOYD, General Manager.

We hereby certify that we have audited the accounts of the Company, and that the above statement correctly sets forth the position of its affairs on the 31st day of December, 1886.

LAUNDY AND CO., Chartered Accountants, Auditors.

SUN FIRE AND LIFE OFFICES.

Threadneedle-street, E.C.; Charing-cross, S.W.; Oxford-street (corner of Vere-street), W.

FIRE.—Established 1710. Home and Foreign Insurances at moderate rates.

LIFE.—Established 1810. Low Premiums.—Large Cash Bonuses.—Investment Policies.—Liberal Conditions.—Immediate Settlements.

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Incorporated 1720. Fire, Life, Sea, and Annuities.

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Funds exceed £4,000,000. Office: Royal Exchange, E.C., and 29, Pall-mall, S.W.

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

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, 47, Lothbury, E.C.

BROKERS.

Messrs. Brunton, Bourke and Co., 18, Finch-lane, E.C.

SECRETARY AND OFFICES.

Percy B. Schreiber, Esq., 60, Queen Victoria-street, E.C.

ABRIDGED PROSPECTUS.

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

The mines are in full operation.

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.

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

Full Prospectus and Forms of Application can be had on application to the Bankers, Brokers, or Secretary at the addresses above given.

CLERICAL, MEDICAL, & GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

Chief Office—15, St. James's-square, London, S.W.

City Branch—Mansion House-buildings, E.C.

Chairman—Right Hon. Sir John Robert Mowbray, Bart., M.P., D.C.L.

TWELFTH BONUS MEETING, 1887.

The Report presented at a meeting, held on the 6th January last, showed that on the rigorous bases of the Institute of Actuaries' H^M and H^M(S) Tables of Mortality, with 3 per cent. interest and net premiums, which together produce the highest reserves known to the Assurance practice,

The calculated liability was.....£2,181,937

To which further Reserves were added of.....158,823

Making the Total Reserves.....£2,340,760

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the subject of private legislation, this book is both

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tribute to the energy and enterprise of the British

race. As such, it is fittingly offered by its author as

a memorial of an auspicious era in a renowned and

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reference, is not only nor even primarily an authority

to be consulted. It is a repository of varied and

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easily accessible regarding many points of municipal

history, especially relating to the famous Corpora-
tion of London. . . . Everybody, on whatever side,

has reason to be indebted to Mr. Clifford for the

valuable materials which he has provided towards

understanding the question of private legislation."—
Scotsman.

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British history."—*Law Times*.

BUTTERWORTHS, 7, Fleet-street, E.C.

ROYAL ALBERT HALL.—Seat-
holders would do well to withhold their
proxies until they receive a budget of the accounts,
which have been investigated by my accountant
(James Harris, Old Jewry) and under the authority
of the President and the Council in February, 1886.
Read daily the FINANCIAL NEWS, commencing
from To-day. It is impossible to continue spending
an average of over £3,000 per annum and earning
only £2,000 per annum.

J. T. FRACOCK,

Sudbury House,
Hammersmith.

THE CENTURY MAGAZINE.

PRICE 1s. 4d.

The CONTENTS for MARCH include "The Life of Abraham Lincoln," profusely
illustrated—*The Daily Telegraph* of Nov. 1, 1886, said, "The fascinating pages of this
biography;" "The Cathedral Churches of England;" "Camping Out in California;"
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Stillman; "The White Man of the New South," by W. F. Tillett; "By the Waters of
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With Plan of "The Battle of Flamborough Head." Partially reprinted from the
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events which will probably occur in the next naval war, but these are characterized
by an air of reality which makes it difficult to believe that the historical details are wholly
fictitious."*—*Army and Navy Gazette*.

London: HATCHARDS, 187, Piccadilly, W.

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