

THE ST. JAMES'S GAZETTE

An Evening Review and Record of News.

No. 2103.—VOL. XIV.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 1887.

PRICE ONE PENNY.

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COVENT GARDEN.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.
Mr. MAPLESON has the honour to announce that the OPERA SEASON of 1887 will COMMENCE on SATURDAY, March 12.
The prospectus is in course of preparation, and will be shortly issued.
The Box-office will open on Monday March 7.

DRURY LANE.

DRURY LANE.—AUGUSTUS HARRIS, Lessee and Manager.
EVERY EVENING, at 7.30: Morning Performance EVERY MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, and SATURDAY, at 1.25. THE FORTY THIEVES. The best Pantomime ever produced at Drury Lane, the finest spectacle ever seen, and played by the best and funniest company ever gathered together.
THIS DAY, at 1.25 and 7.25. 102nd and 103rd Performances.

LYCEUM.

LYCEUM.—FAUST, EVERY EVENING, at 8 o'clock. Mephistopheles, Mr. HENRY IRVING; Margaret, Miss ELLEN TERRY. Box Office (Mr. J. Hurst) open 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 (14th time). Mr. William Terriss, Messrs. Beveridge, Garden, Maclean, Lyndal, Boleyn, Russell, Wentworth, Travers, &c.; Misses Millward, Achurch, C. Jecks, Leigh, Brennan, Nelson, &c. At 7.15, FAMILY JARS.

OPERA COMIQUE.

MISS KATE VAUGHAN'S COMEDY COMPANY.—TO-NIGHT, at 8.30, SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER. Messrs. Forbes-Robertson, James Fernandez, Forbes-Dawson, Tapping, Sydney Brough, and Lionel Brough; Mesdames John Billington, Julia Gwynne, Meyer, Susan Vaughan, and Miss Kate Vaughan. Preceded, at 7.45, by A MERRY MEETING. MORNING PERFORMANCE OF SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER on SATURDAY NEXT, at 2.15.—OPERA COMIQUE THEATRE. Manager, F. J. Harris.

VAUDEVILLE.

VAUDEVILLE.—THIS EVENING, at 8.30, SOPHIA (245th time), by Robert Buchanan. Messrs. THOMAS THORNE, Carleton, Thorne, Farquhar, Melish, Grove, Wheatman, and LEONARD BOYNE; Mesdames Larkin, Leclercq, Venne, Forsyth, and K. Rorke. At 7.45, NEARLY SEVERED. MATINEE every SATURDAY, at 2.30.

GLOBE.

GLOBE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. CHARLES H. HAWTREY. NOTICE.—Owing to the severe INDISPOSITION of Mr. W. S. PENLEY this Theatre will be CLOSED, and THE SNOWBALL POSTPONED until further notice.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.

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

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE. ALICE IN WONDERLAND.—MR. EDGAR BRUCE'S MATINEES.—To-Day, 2.30. Monday Next and following days, at 3.30, until further notice, a Musical Drama-play in two acts, by Savile Clarke, founded on Lewis Carroll's delightful Stories. Music by Walter Slaughter. Doors open 2.15, commence 2.30. Box-office 10 to 5 daily. Prices for children under 12: Stalls, 2s. 6d.; balcony stalls, 4s.; balcony, 3s.; and first circle, 2s.

PRINCESS'S.

PRINCESS'S THEATRE.—THE NOBLE VAGABOND, by Henry Arthur Jones, at 8.15 (60th time), in which Mr. Charles Warner, Messrs. George Barrett, Charles Cartwright, Julian Cross, E. W. Thomas, E. Gurney; Mesdames Dorothy Dene, Bella Titheradge, Annie Hughes, &c., will appear. Doors open 7.15. Commence at 7.45 with THE CLOCKMAKER'S HAT. Miss Hampton, &c. Box-office open from 10 to 5.

GAIETY.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, GEORGE EDWARDS.—THIS EVENING, at 8, MONTE CRISTO JR., a Burlesque Melodrama in Three Acts, by Richard Henry. Produced by Charles Harris. Musical Director, Meyer Lutz. At 7.30, DIMITY'S DILEMMA, a new farce by Malcolm C. Salaman. Doors open 7.15. MORNING PERFORMANCE OF MONTE CRISTO JR., every SATURDAY, at 2.

SAVOY.

SAVOY.—R. D'OYLY 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 Coult, Mr. Fenton, Mr. Ferrand, and Mr. H. Beerholm-Tree; Miss Mary Rorke, Miss Lydia Cowell, and Miss Marion Terry. Booking-office open daily ten to five. No fees. Doors open 7.30.

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.

OLYMPIC MATINEES.—Lessee, Miss GRACE HAWTHORNE.—TO-DAY, and WEDNESDAY Next, March 9, HEARTSEASE. Miss Hawthorne as Margaret Gautier. Doors 1.30, commence 2. FROU-FROU on March 16.

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.

CRITERION.

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

COMEDY.

COMEDY THEATRE.—Sole Lessee, Miss MELNOTTE.—Enthusiastic reception of MYNHEER JAN.—Every Evening, at 8, the new Comic Opera, in 3 acts, entitled MYNHEER JAN, written by Harry Paulton and Mostyn Tedde. Music by Edward Jakobowski. The cast will include Messrs. Harry Paulton, Frank Wyatt, Joseph Tapley, Sidney Harcourt, De Lange, Marius, Miss Camille d'Arville, Mde. 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.

COURT.

COURT THEATRE.—DANDY DICK.—TO-NIGHT will be acted, at 8.30 punctually, a New and Original Farce in Three Acts by A. W. Pinero, entitled DANDY DICK, in which Messrs. Arthur Cecil, H. Eversfield, F. Kerr, E. Maurice, W. H. Denny, W. 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.

PARIS HIPPODROME at OLYMPIA. Addison-road Station, Kensington. TO-DAY, at 2.30. TO-NIGHT, at 8, The Olympian Races, Roman Chariot Races, Triple Tandem of Jumping Horses, Race of Riderless Steeds over Hurdles, the Junior Derby, the Spanish Bull-Fight, Indian Race, the wonderful Family of Lions, 400 artists and assistants. 300 Horses, Dogs, Elephants, Deer, &c. 100 Musicians. Such a show has never been seen in London. Admission, from 1s.

SANDOWN PARK CLUB, ESHER, SURREY.

THE MARCH MEETING

will take place on FRIDAY and SATURDAY, March 4th and 5th, Commencing at 2.30 P.M. each day.

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

MDME. TUSSAUD'S EXHIBITION.

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

ROYAL UNITED SERVICE INSTITUTION.

THE FIFTY-SIXTH ANNIVERSARY MEETING will be held in the Theatre of the Institution on SATURDAY, March 5. The Chair will be taken by the Right Honourable E. STANHOPE, M.P., Secretary of State for War, at Three o'clock, when the Report of the referees on the Military Prize Essay will be ready and the Gold Medal presented.

By order of the Council, BOUGHEY BURGESS, Captain, Secretary.

COMMERCIAL UNION ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Shareholders of the above Company will be held on TUESDAY, the 15th March, 1887, at 12 o'clock noon, at the CANNON-STREET HOTEL, Cannon-street, London, E.C. The books for the registration of shares will be closed from Wednesday, the 2nd day of March, to Tuesday, the 15th day of March, 1887, both inclusive. By order of the Board, G. L. BENNETT, Secretary.

19 and 20, Cornhill, London, E.C., 1st March, 1887.

PROPOSED CESSATION OF SUNDAY POSTAL DELIVERY.

IMMEDIATE AND GENERAL PETITIONING. A motion to this effect will be discussed in the House of Commons on Tuesday, March 22. It should be largely supported by Petitions from all parts of the United Kingdom. Forms of Petition may be had on application as below. JOHN GRITTON, D.D.

Lord's Day Society, 20, Bedford-street, Strand.

NATIONAL UNION CLUB,

23, ALBEMARLE-STREET, W. All who desire to PRESERVE INTACT the INTEGRITY and the UNITY of the BRITISH EMPIRE, and to take energetic action to that end, are invited to send for a Prospectus, showing the ends and aims of this Club, and the form of membership. VISCOUNT POLLINGTON, Hon. Sec.

TO BUILDERS AND OTHERS.

The Commissioners of Sewers of the City of London will meet in the Guildhall of the said City on TUESDAY the 8th of March, 1887, at half-past twelve o'clock precisely, to RECEIVE TENDERS for the Construction of a New Sewer in Silver-street and Falcon-square, agreeably to plans to be seen at the office of the Engineer to the Commissioners, in the Guildhall, where copies of the specification and printed forms of tender may be obtained on application.

Security will be required from the Contractor for the due execution of the Contract.

The Commissioners do not pledge themselves to accept the lowest or any tender. All tenders must be delivered before twelve o'clock on the said day of treaty, and the parties sending in proposals must attend personally, or by a duly authorized agent, at half-past twelve o'clock on the said day.

The party whose tender is accepted will be required to sign an agreement to execute a contract drawn up in accordance with the specification. HENRY BLAKE, Principal Clerk.

Sewers' Office, Guildhall, 14th Feb., 1887.

TO MASONS and PAVIORS.

The Commissioners of Sewers of the City of London will meet in the Guildhall of the said City on TUESDAY, the 8th of March, 1887, at Half-past Two o'clock precisely, to receive Tenders for the execution of all such works of stone paving in the carriageways and in the footways severally of the said City as may from time to time be required during the term of three years, commencing at Lady Day now next ensuing, upon the terms contained in a Specification which may be seen and copied at this office.

Forms of Tender may also be had. For the purpose of these works the City is divided into four districts, for each of which Tenders are to be sent in for masons' work in the footways, and for paviors' work in the carriageways, of such districts respectively.

Persons tendering are required to give the names and addresses of at least two substantial householders as their sureties, to enter into bond with the Contractor for the due performance of the contract.

The Commissioners do not pledge themselves to accept the lowest Tender, or any, unless deemed satisfactory, and all Tenders must be delivered in before Twelve o'clock on the said day of treaty.

The parties sending in proposals must attend personally before the Commissioners, or by a duly authorized agent, at Half-past Twelve o'clock on the said day.

HENRY BLAKE, Principal Clerk. Sewers' Office, Guildhall, Feb. 24, 1887.

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The following Steamships, belonging to the ORIENT AND PACIFIC COMPANIES will leave TILBURY as under, PLYMOUTH two days later, Naples nine days later, and Suez fourteen days later, with Her Majesty's Mails for ADELAIDE, MELBOURNE, and SYDNEY direct, taking passengers for the above, and on through Tickets for all other Ports in AUSTRALASIA:—

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LUSITANIA ..	3,825	3,700	Mar. 17.
LIGURIA.....	4,688	4,200	Mar. 31.
AUSTRAL	5,588	7,000	April 14.
IBERIA.....	4,702	4,200	April 28.
CHIMBORAZO	3,847	3,000	May 12.
POTOSI.....	4,267	3,500	May 26.
ORIENT	5,386	6,000	June 9.

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THE ST. JAMES'S GAZETTE.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 1887.

THE WORKING OF POPULAR DEMONSTRATIONS.

LAST night the House of Commons had the advantage of hearing an account of the way in which popular agitations are worked in these days of progress. Coming from an eminent professor of the art, it was at any rate worth listening to with attention. Mr G. HOWELL, M.P., knows as well as anybody how the masses can be "enthused" for or against any measure, and what it costs to do it. When he talks of the hiring of audiences, the feeling of "chuckers-out," and the manufacture of public feeling generally, he speaks with the weight of one who knows his subject thoroughly. His lecture, therefore, was valuable in itself. Whether the charges against the Corporation of London contained in it are true, is another matter. At present they must be regarded, in spite of the fact that Messrs. LABOUCHERE and BRADLAUGH are willing to vouch for them, as anonymous and unsupported accusations. Before credence can be attached to them, it will be necessary for impartial arbiters to examine the documents from which Mr. HOWELL and Mr. LABOUCHERE profess to quote. When those documents are produced it will be a curious though a subordinate question how they came into the possession of their present holders. No doubt the Government will sanction an inquiry into the subject by a Committee, and it will be a pity if the investigation does not extend to the transactions of that interesting body the Municipal Reform League. If that were done it is possible that Mr. HOWELL would be sorry he spoke, and that Mr. LABOUCHERE would wish that he had not said anything about bogus agitations. Meanwhile Sir ROBERT FOWLER declares that the Corporation have not the least reason to shrink from an inquiry before a Committee in which the public can have confidence. The matter at present is one of unsupported statements, and Sir ROBERT FOWLER'S and Lord GEORGE HAMILTON'S denials certainly do not carry less weight than Mr. HOWELL'S and Mr. LABOUCHERE'S assertions.

If the Corporation have really done what they are charged with doing, they are no doubt much in the wrong. But they might offer a very plausible explanation, if they had no good defence. The kind of thing which Mr. HOWELL called attention to is a result of the constant appeal to the "public opinion" of mobs and crowds. The first business of anybody who wants to get a measure passed or rejected must be to organize popular demonstrations. Unless he can do that he has little hope of being attended to. Get ten thousand men to march through the streets, with hop-poles and brass bands, and the House of Commons will take notice of you, and grave statesmen will solemnly warn the Legislature that so striking a manifestation of the popular will cannot be disregarded. The *vox populi* is no longer uttered by means of the elected representatives of the constituencies. It must be emitted from the throats of the "working men" themselves in crowded public meetings, or no account will be taken of it. That is the lesson the Corporation had to learn. It was their duty to oppose the mischievous and confiscatory measures of Mr. FIRTH and his Leaguers. And how were they to do it? They must have their meetings and their demonstrations, or the case would go against them by default. The municipal reformers were holding meetings all over the town. The defenders of the Corporation were bound to do the same. Both sides, no doubt, frequently adopted the delightful methods reprobated by Mr. HOWELL last night. It was altogether wrong, of course, to spend the civic funds upon the business; but as to the mode in which the work was done, from the hiring of rooms to the feeling of audiences, claqueurs, demonstrators, and interrupters, Mr. HOWELL must know, and does know well, that this is the ordinary way in which a great public agitation is got up and carried on nowadays. Everybody who is at all connected with politics is aware that there is nothing exceptional in the alleged proceedings of the Metropolitan Ratepayers' Protection Association. It is well understood that any person who desires to get up an agitation on any subject can do so without the least difficulty. He can go to certain recognized leaders of the working men—Mr. HOWELL perhaps could supply their addresses—and he will be told that the demonstration, or the procession, or the enthusiastic public meeting, can be provided at a fortnight's date after receipt of cheque. It is a mere matter of money. So many orators, so many stewards, so many "working men"—all at so much per head. The demonstration can be indefinitely enlarged by additional *pro rata* payments. The worst of the system is the demoralization it is gradually producing on a section of the labouring classes. It is not to be supposed that a working man will leave his business to shout in St. James's Hall or carry a banner to Trafalgar-square, for nothing. If he wastes his time in this way, he expects to be paid for it; and so of course does the loafer, who is much more often employed,

It is an easy means of having a "lark" and earning a few shillings and once enjoyed is apt to be resorted to again and again. The consequence is that men are tempted to quit their legitimate occupations to become loafers round the political clubs and parasites of the wire-pullers. There are professional demonstrators, as there are professional unemployed; besides, of course, the large contingent of roughs always ready to "scoop" money that can be got without toil. The politicians who have been trying for so many years past to transfer the conduct of public affairs from the Cabinet and the Legislature to the streets ought not to be surprised at the natural results of their work.

"CAVIAR:" A BULGARIAN EPISODE.

PERA, Feb. 19.

MAYBE the story I am going to tell is not all new to you; for I have seen odd ends of it here and there in newspapers. But I doubt your having had it in whole form; and even if you have, the tale is good enough to bear twice telling: for it comprises plot, counterplot, and exposure; virtue and vice; an ambassador, a woman, and a fool, besides a useful pair of morals and the rare quality of truth. Therefore, if you please, I will pick up the pieces and put them together.

At Number 71 in the Pera street called Asmali Medjid—the western limb of the Stravro Dromo—lives Mr. Papazoglou. It is a coincidence not concerning the story that his house faces the Imperial Hotel, where Voulkovitch, Grekoff, Stoiloff, and Kaltcheff are now living. Mr. Papazoglou is a Bulgar, an honest dealer in otto of roses, wedded to an estimable woman whom he took from the rose-fields of Kezanlik. Plain folk both, they have been so petted, flattered, befooled and fascinated by the Russian Embassy as to turn their artless heads and susceptible hearts to idolatry of the Divine Figure and blind faith in the infallibility of his Vicar. If you would know why the Russian Embassy poured forth upon the Papazoglou pair all the charms in its cornucopia, it is that decent Bulgars devoted to Russia are "properties" necessary for the *mise en scène* of Russian diplomacy. Mr. Papazoglou has never been an active politician, though he sat as deputy in the Roumelian Assembly in the days of Aleko. But he never launched into the patriotic line: rose-oil and its profits satisfied all the yearnings of his simple unambitious soul. This by way of introduction of the two leading characters in the tale, and, with a few words to present a third character, I shall be able to begin it.

The "infallible Vicar" has lately had his fallibility so forced upon his own notice that he has grown more restless and nervous than ever, and persists in going on playing small stakes in spite of his evil vein. He thought to win a big stake on Zankoff, though no one who knows anything of the man or his country believed he would; but the frog burst prematurely by excessive inflation, and Zankoff, who could not resist the temptation of playing a trick or so on his own account, hastened the collapse. The infallible Vicar felt that Zankoff was slipping through his fingers, when he bethought him of Papazoglou.

About a fortnight ago Major Nicolaieff, the Bulgarian Minister of War, received a letter from Mr. Papazoglou promising him—as it appears, on behalf of the Russian Ambassador—money and advancement if he would lead the army to depose the Regency. The letter bid Major Nicolaieff if he accepted the offer, telegraph two words to the sender, "Caviare reçu." Major Nicolaieff showed the letter to his colleagues, and, in order to fathom the depths of the plot, it was decided to reply to the letter by wire as follows:—"Caviare reçu; avec qui dois-je le manger?" In a few hours came back the reply, "Avec Popoff." Now Major Popoff is the commander of the Sophia garrison. As soon as this reply was to hand the Sophia authorities felt confident that, unless the whole affair were a hoax, some emissary would shortly arrive to give effect to the promises contained in the first letter. Careful watch was set, therefore, and on the 10th inst. Mrs. Papazoglou was arrested by the Sophia police as she was entering the town. On being taken before a magistrate, she was found to be in possession of a Russian passport, although she was a Bulgarian subject, and to be bearer of £4,000 in bank-notes: and of a further letter addressed to Major Nicolaieff, promising him the rank of general and other honours, besides money to be placed at his disposal, if he would bring about a *pronunciamento* and overthrow the Regency. Mrs. Papazoglou, at this stage of her mission, became aware that she had been placed in a very awkward position, and telegraphed her arrest to her husband. Meanwhile, she made a clean breast of it to the Sophia police, and was allowed to be at large, though under strict police surveillance.

On receiving his wife's message, the danger she had been placed in seems to have dawned on Mr. Papazoglou; he rushed across the street to Mr. Voulkovitch, and, overcome with tears, besought him that no harm should befall his wife. He confessed everything to Mr. Voulkovitch; showed him copies of his letters and telegrams to Major Nicolaieff; and declared that all he had done was at the instigation of the Russian Embassy, where, on taking the oath of fidelity to the Czar, he had obtained the passport for his wife and the £4,000.

The Bulgarians were naturally disposed to make the most of this incident, because of its typical character, and because of their weariness of these Russian plottings by which they are beset on every side. But they were advised by Sir William White to make no fuss about it and to close it as soon as possible. Mrs. Papazoglou will be allowed to return to her husband and her home, and the couple of the Rue Asmali Medjid will be all the wiser and not much the worse for their experience. The cynical way in which this honest family was corrupted and the wife endangered, to carry out a futile and puerile plot, gives the measure of the morality and intelligence that directs the proceedings of its distinguished authors.

R. R.

NOTES.

Though the report that the Bulgarian garrison at Silistria had revolted against the Regency has not been authoritatively confirmed, there is more reason to believe in it than in similar reports which have been floated once or twice lately. These reports proved to be inventions; and whether they were published with intent to suggest the existence of military discontent, or whether the authors of them fancied themselves only a few hours before the event, is not at present known. Certain it is, however, that the official agents of Russia, as well as a variety of supernumeraries, have been busy in getting up garrison revolts in Bulgaria for months past: as, for instance, the attempt in which Mr. and Mrs. Papazoglou were concerned. Now this is of itself very significant, of course. For if the Russian Government wishes for these revolts, and endeavours to bring them about, it follows that the Czar must be indifferent to the prospect of having to interfere, to say the least. The natural inference is, indeed, that he desires an occasion of interference. And this is the way in which the Silistria outbreak must be regarded—supposing it really to have happened, as there seems little reason to doubt. It is very serious news if true, and yet more disquieting is the report that some other garrisons have revolted also. However, we must wait awhile for full and trustworthy information before we begin to speculate about consequences.

Lord Lyndhurst's letter to the *Times* on the subject of the anarchical condition of Ireland deserves the serious attention of the Government. It will remind them that the restoration of order and the vindication of their own authority in Ireland form no less a cardinal part of their duty than the maintenance of the Union. Lord Lyndhurst, speaking as a Liberal Unionist, assures the Government of the support of their Liberal allies in any legislation that may be necessary to restore to Ireland the blessings of a real government, and he calls upon the Conservatives to take immediate steps for the destruction of the conspiracy by which they are defied. All real Unionists will work together for the entire Unionist programme; but if the part of that programme which consists in the restoration of order is neglected, the alliance is not serving its true ends, and its existence is endangered. Lord Lyndhurst speaks strongly, but none too strongly.

Lord Thurlow's Electric Lighting Act Amendment Bill was read a second time in the House of Lords yesterday, and we are glad to see that it is to be supported by the Government. The Act of 1882 imposed upon electric lighting enterprise restrictions that have proved all but fatally severe. No doubt it was most desirable that the tyrannical monopoly of the water companies should not be repeated in the case of electric lighting; but in endeavouring to secure the public against that danger, the framers of the Act of 1882 imposed such conditions on electric light companies as to paralyze their working altogether. The companies want a longer time than twenty-one years in which to gather profits or make good their losses in getting to work. This is a reasonable demand; and there can be no doubt now that unless it is conceded there can be no attempt at electric lighting on a considerable scale. That has been conclusively proved.

The London Diocesan Conference were engaged yesterday in considering the question of the reports of divorce cases, and passed a resolution in favour of such measures as might prevent the publication of indecent evidence. The conference were apparently in favour of legislation on the matter; and it seems to be needed. The unusual fulness with which a recent divorce case was reported was no doubt due to the debauching of the public sense of decency by the outbreak of obscenity which was allowed to go unpunished the year before last. The resolution of the Diocesan Conference (over which the Bishop of London presided) may have a beneficial effect in assisting this recovery. Whether it does so or not, it ought to be welcomed as a sign that the representatives of the Church are now alive to those considerations of decency and public morality which several ecclesiastical dignitaries so flagrantly neglected on the occasion referred to.

It is no easy matter to find anything like passable accommodation for the night in Mentone and the other towns, where the houses are in so shaky a condition that no one dares sleep under a roof. Covered vehicles of all sorts are being utilized in this way; but there is such a run upon them that even this poor shelter is only within the reach of persons blest with long purses. Mlle. Magnier, the well-known Parisian actress, and four other ladies are renting an old omnibus between them at the rate of £8 per day each. The Nice correspondent of the *Figaro* says that a hackney coachman admitted to him that he had got as much as £80 for a single night's use of his vehicle. A small party in Mentone have had to make shift with worse quarters. Some five or six of the citizens, including a notary, an engineer, and a veterinary surgeon, have taken up their abode in the parish hearth.

The existence of other kinds of cats besides the "harmless necessary" species was illustrated by the proceedings against the Countess de la Torre at the Hammersmith Police Court. An inspector who visited her house counted twenty-five cats in three rooms, and many others darted from room to room or disappeared up the chimneys too rapidly for the inspector to count them. The Countess asserted that, since her house was her castle, she might surely keep as many cats as she liked; but the magistrate replied that cats which are individually harmless may collectively become

a nuisance if they are so numerous that the house cannot be kept clean nor the atmosphere pure. The defendant said that ill-health had temporarily prevented her from caring for the comfort and cleanliness of her numerous pets; but that under normal circumstances she could enforce discipline and make the cats rather a blessing than a curse to her neighbours. She was ordered to pay 4s. costs, and to abate the nuisance within a week. At the expiration of that time her cats must be either reduced in number or taught to respect themselves and not to give offence to others.

There must have been a considerable quantity of rhetoric delivered during the election in the Biggleswade Division of Bedfordshire, as the expenses there for "public meetings" are far and away the highest in the kingdom; the cost being, to Viscount Baring (L U) £92 4s. 8d., and to Mr. C. Magniac (C) £114 0s. 8d. Under the heading of "personal expenses" the first place for extravagance is easily taken by Mr. King, the Conservative member for Central Hull, with an outlay of £206 16s. 4d.; the next by Alderman Whitehead, the unsuccessful Gladstonian candidate for North Westmoreland, with £175 13s. 3d.; and the third by Mr. Lyell, Gladstonian member for Orkney and Shetland, with £174 12s. 10d. This last election was an expensive one. Although the maximum scale allowed by the Corrupt Practices Act was £1,010, the successful candidate spent £1,518 18s. 2d., and the unsuccessful £1,578 5s. 1d.: more than half as much again as the authorized amount.

The current number of the *Sunday Magazine* contains an extremely interesting article entitled "Charity Experiences of a Prison Chaplain," by the Reverend J. W. Horsley; who encourages everybody to give any mortal thing that he or she can think of for the purpose of enabling ex-convicts to make a start in the right direction. The most "unlikely" presents may have their use. "A black dress-suit seemed at first a white (?) elephant; but the day after its receipt a man from a county prison was recommended to me by his chaplain. He had been dishonest as a butler; but seemed thoroughly repentant, and now had heard of a place with a friend at a restaurant. The appropriate costume was necessary, and apparently unattainable; but my suit was the very thing." The man obtained the place and afterwards considerable preferment in his humble walk of life; nor is there any relapse to chronicle in this case. The solitary donation in kind that Mr. Horsley could never dispose of was a white hat, which he supposes, on the closing of Clerkenwell prison, to have become the perquisite of the Home Secretary.

"A Scot" writes:—The other day the *Scottish Leader*, the least considerable of all the Scotch daily papers, made the monstrous assertion that it would be difficult to find a dozen working men north of the Tweed desirous of contributing as much as sixpence apiece to a memorial of the Jubilee. The *Saturday Review* takes this as text for an article in which it argues that Scotland all over is disloyal. This is hardly fair. There are papers like the *Scottish Leader* in England, but you don't judge your country by them. As a matter of fact, every newspaper in Scotland with a good reputation has written loyally and enthusiastically of the Queen. Every day almost they contain reports of meetings held in the different Scotch towns, where motions to celebrate the Jubilee are warmly carried. In Edinburgh itself, where the *Scottish Leader* is published, the ladies are already collecting for the Women's Jubilee Gift to the Queen, the headquarters of the committee being the Lord Provost's house.

Some interesting figures relative to the "higher education" of women in Russia bring with them the reminder that it is chiefly in northern lands that noticeable progress has been made in teaching the "ologies" to women. During the year 1886 the higher classes for girls in St. Petersburg were attended by 743 students—a considerable increase upon the figures in former years. Ever since 1864 it has been possible for women to obtain university degrees in Russia; and in 1870 the ranks of medicine were opened to them. Sweden followed the example in a few months, and was therein soon joined by Norway. But the "dark and true and tender" north is not to be allowed to have a monopoly in the manufacture of feminine prigs. Considerable progress in that direction has during the last five or six years been made in Italy; and now even Portugal is bitten with the craze. M. Luciano de Castro, the chief of the "Progressist" Cabinet in that country, has declared the improvement of the education given to women to be the most urgent question of the day. Portuguese politics must be in a happy state.

The energy and activity of the German Emperor would be remarkable were he twenty years younger than he is. In a man who hopes this month to celebrate his ninetieth birthday they are little short of miraculous. Here, for example, is a record, taken from the Court chronicle in the *Berlin Tageblatt*, of the occupations of his Majesty on two consecutive days of last week. On the first day he began, as usual, by receiving and criticising the reports of Count Perponcher. Having heard them, he inspected specimens of the new field equipment of the German infantry, and then retired to do two hours' hard work in his study with General von Albedyll. Later on he received two other officers, went for a drive, dined, and attended a concert. On the following morning he again gave audience to Count Perponcher, and then reviewed the Berlin Fire Brigade, afterwards working in his study with Count Stolberg-Wernigerode. He next received two Ambassadors, and, having dismissed them, went for a sharp walk with one of his aides-de-camp. After dinner he was so little fatigued that he was able not only to appear but to remain for more than an hour at the theatre. Perhaps

this extraordinary degree of youthfulness may be to some extent attributed to the fact that the Emperor lives very regularly. Nearly every day he eats a hot boiled lobster at dinner, and he is almost equally true to pork chops.

We have so often lamented our lost commercial supremacy of late, that it is as well to remind ourselves occasionally that all is not quite lost yet. The Suez Canal traffic returns for 1886 have just been published, and show that last year 77 per cent. of the total tonnage was British; precisely the same proportion as in 1885. The nearest approach to our own marine, with its 2,500 ships of four million tons burden, was the French, with 170 ships of less than half a million tons. Holland comes next with 120 ships of 220,000 tons, closely followed by Germany with 153 ships but only 209,000 tons. It is noticeable, however, that, though other countries show a decline from the previous year, Germany and Austria show an increase of some 18,000 tons between them. America passed six ships, including both merchant and navy vessels, through the Canal in 1886, against only three in 1885; while of the remainder Italy claims the greater number.

Lord Stanley of Preston's Railway and Canal Traffic Bill will be received with mixed feelings. It goes too closely in some respects to Mr. Mundella's abortive measure of last session; on the other hand, it is a bold attempt to deal with one of the most urgent questions that came before Lord Iddesleigh's Commission on the Depression of Trade. The Railway and Canal Commission, which it is proposed to reconstitute, will have much more extensive powers than the existing Railway Commissioners, who are to be abolished; and it is of importance to note that large facilities are given for bringing the question of undue or excessive rates before the new tribunal, which would be authorized to hold inquiries in any part of the United Kingdom. The judicial element will be strongly represented. The present Bill is limited in its scope to goods traffic on railways and canals, and is in no way concerned with questions of passenger fares or public safety. It deserves, and will no doubt receive, the fullest consideration.

Carriage-owners would, no doubt, be very much obliged to carriage-makers if the latter could procure the abolition of the tax on carriages. It was not, however, merely a generous sympathy with the hardship inflicted on their patrons which actuated the deputation of coach-makers who urged Mr. Goschen to abandon the tax. The tax was represented as being in effect a tax on labour; and the Chancellor of the Exchequer was assured that the carriage trade would immediately revive if it were removed. Mr. Goschen pointed out that the depression in the carriage trade had occurred at the same time as the depression in other industries; and that the hard times and general necessity for retrenchment could hardly have failed to reduce the demand for carriages, even if they had not been taxed. There may be a few people on the brink of buying a carriage whom the remission of the tax of two guineas or fifteen shillings might encourage to take the fatal plunge. But the tax certainly comes as near to a tax on luxuries as any that can be imagined; and the diminution of consumption, and consequent prejudice to labour, are probably almost imperceptible. The Chancellor of the Exchequer showed no inclination to give up this source of revenue.

An "almost incredible, and unheard-of incident" is reported from Berlin, and the *Times*' correspondent describes it with a solemnity and fervour which would befit the narrative of a grave crisis in the history of Europe. Herr von Bülow had taken two tickets for the performance of a new opera at the Royal Opera House. Accompanied by his wife, he entered the lobby and proceeded to divest himself of his overcoat. While so doing he was unceremoniously accosted by a haughty menial wearing the livery of the Opera House, and was requested to leave the building. Vainly remonstrating against the violation of his rights, and yielding to hardly veiled threats of physical violence, the illustrious pianist withdrew. It appears that no more serious offence is alleged against him than that in past years he once referred to the Berlin Opera as the "Circus Hülse," Hülse being the name of a former Intendant-General of the Theatres. The conduct of the authorities at the Opera House was certainly discourteous, and possibly illegal. They have been guilty of a thoroughly discreditable act of petty tyranny. It is possible, however, that the peace of Europe and the civilization of the world may survive the shock.

A correspondent writes:—One of your recent Notes seems to suggest the inference that the amusements of American society are unintellectual and really unsocial, and that society in New York and other cities of the United States finds no pleasure in social conversation. The writer of your Note surely cannot think that the Americans are less conversational and find less pleasure in conversation than Englishmen do. The theatre parties and other recreations of Americans are certainly not indulged in because Americans are unable to entertain themselves with each other's society. I know nothing of "donkey parties;" and probably most Americans know as little of them as I do and would concur in your correspondent's estimate of them. Why did he not make mention of the "progressive euchre parties" which are now so popular in New York? Each guest has to play in turn at a table with every other guest, and the stakes to be won are not dollars but gifts presented by the host and hostess. When the evening winds up with a supper and a few dances, surely the guests of both sexes have at any rate had a more social evening than is provided by a solemn whist party or an English "at home."

A SIX MONTHS' RECORD IN EGYPT.

THOSE of us who have been curious to know what Sir H. Drummond Wolff was doing in Egypt last year have our answer in a Blue Book which tells the whole story (at least, we suppose so) from May to the end of November. And if any one, after reading it, suggests that, on the whole, the game does not appear to have been worth the candle, he is unworthy the name of a British taxpayer.

Previous to May, Sir Henry had sent home a convincing despatch in favour of maintaining the commercial blockade of the Soudan, as a more efficacious and less costly measure against the rebellious natives than any practicable military operations. This despatch produced a deep impression on the mind of Lord Rosebery, though it seems to have passed very quickly out of the mind of its author. In May, Sir Henry suddenly telegraphed to Lord Rosebery, recommending that the blockade should be raised; to which Lord Rosebery replied that the proposal "required consideration." Again Sir Henry urged it, alleging that he had the support of General Butler, which was true, and of General Stephenson, which was not. All that General Stephenson had said was that he would withdraw his objections on military grounds, provided certain restrictive measures were taken. The High Commissioner next brought forward the "leading merchants of Cairo" to back him up; but he now limited his suggestions to four routes, embracing the trade of Wady Halfa, Assouan, Korosko, and Assiout. On the 2nd of June, Lord Rosebery telegraphed, "We are not yet in possession of arguments which, in our opinion, outweigh those previously given by you for maintaining the prohibition;" to which Sir Henry boldly replied, "The only objections, those made by the military authorities, have not only been withdrawn, but converted into approval." How far Sir Henry was justified in making that statement will appear presently. But on the very same day he had to report an advance of the rebels with the intention of destroying the railway, and two days later he telegraphed that "had the raising of the blockade been sanctioned we should, in the face of the recent news, have suspended its execution!" In other words, it would have been a disastrous blunder to have carried out the policy he had at first opposed, and had afterwards urged with extraordinary persistence.

From this point the High Commissioner demanded only a "discretionary power" as to reopening the Soudan trade, and again alleged General Stephenson's concurrence. As the discretionary power was to be shared by General Stephenson, this was not unlikely. The reply was a partial consent; but only "tentative measures" were sanctioned, and the High Commissioner was instructed to report home any contemplated arrangements before they were carried into effect. Meanwhile the rebels kept on advancing, and General Stephenson felt bound to still further limit his assent to Sir H. D. Wolff's project. He suggested, indeed, a telegram being sent home to the effect that "under present circumstances it is necessary, upon military grounds, that the question of reopening trade with the Soudan should remain in abeyance for the present." Sir H. D. Wolff transmitted the suggestion to Lord Rosebery in a formal "covering" despatch by post; and subsequently, in referring to Lord Rosebery's partial consent to tentative measures, thanked his lordship for the "certain latitude" he had given to the authorities in Egypt—"a discretion which will not be abused, inasmuch as no step is taken in matters so important except after full discussion and deliberation." Now, Lord Rosebery had given no "discretion" to "take steps," but had plainly instructed the High Commissioner to report home any "contemplated arrangements" before giving effect to them; and the events on the frontier were daily proving that any arrangements of the kind urged by Sir Henry would be highly impolitic. This was on the 12th of June.

Twelve days later Sir Henry again returns to the attack. He telegraphed to Lord Rosebery, "Time for opening of trade with the Soudan has, I think, arrived, and military authorities seem inclined to take the same view." (The italics are ours.) No doubt, General Butler was inclined, and so was Sir Evelyn Baring. But no mention was made of General Stephenson, the chief military authority; and there is more than a suspicion that it was desired to settle the business behind that officer's back. However, Lord Rosebery was equal to the occasion. On the 25th of June (having in the meantime received another pressing telegram from Sir Henry—"Meeting takes place to-morrow morning. . . . Please send reply immediately") he wrote: "In view of the arguments recently advanced by you in favour of maintaining the blockade, of the total failure of the experiment of relaxing it last year, and of the unanimous opinion of the military authorities in this country that the blockade should be maintained, I cannot, without further information, undertake the responsibility of consenting to the proposed reopening of trade. It is, therefore, the intention of her Majesty's Government to send out an officer to Egypt at once to report confidentially on the subject." This, then, was the culmination of the agitation kept up by Sir Henry Wolff for more than a month. He had been sent out to do Sir Evelyn Baring's work, and now Colonel Grove was sent out to do his. At first Colonel Grove was impressed with the "strong reasons for reopening the trade," though he retained his "personal opinion that the time had not yet come for raising the blockade." Meanwhile, Sir Henry Wolff continued to ply the Foreign Office with despatches on the subject, reinforcing himself with memoranda by General Butler (Sir F. Stephenson is no longer mentioned), and with petitions from the Cairo merchants. And what does Colonel Grove finally report to Lord Rosebery? That "it would be premature to raise the existing blockade at the present moment;" that after a month, if peace were meantime maintained, the experiment might be tried; that in any case, the harvest being then ready, the blockade would be very ineffective; and that the whole question "had not the importance, one way or the other, that was attributed to it."

However, upon Lord Iddesleigh's accession to office Sir Henry Wolff began again. A conversation with an Arab sheikh and an article in an Arab newspaper supplied the occasion, and numerous other despatches

followed. Lord Iddesleigh referred to the Secretary for War as to the opinion of the military authorities. The result was a telegram from General Stephenson stating that "he did not consider it advisable to reopen trade with the Soudan at present," and abundant reasons were given in a following despatch. Then came another telegram from Sir Henry Wolff, claiming again that he had General Stephenson on his side, though only to the extent that the Upper Nile trade should be reopened, and even then only on the 15th of November (more than a month later), provided peace was not disturbed or threatened, and that the military authorities retained the power to reimpose the blockade. Lord Wolseley was in the meantime urging delay till February, and this was communicated to the High Commissioner. One would expect him to oppose it most strongly. On the contrary, he asked only for a discretion to fix the date "a little later or a little earlier than the 1st of February." Then why had he been so pressing on the matter ever since May? The puzzle becomes still harder when we find that on the 3rd of October (six days before the telegram last quoted) he wrote a despatch stating that Generals Stephenson and Grenfell thought the trade "may now be safely renewed," and "urging" his proposal on the "favourable and early consideration" of the Government. However, the reward of importunity came at last, and on the 12th of October Lord Iddesleigh gave permission for the reopening of trade at Suakim "whenever it may be thought desirable," subject to restrictions for preventing supplies from reaching the stronghold of the rebels at Khartoum. And that is the net result of Sir Henry Wolff's six months' labours.

EDUCATIONAL NURSERIES.

(BY A CHILD OF SIX.)

No one who knows what it is to be brought up on alphabetical biscuits will wonder at my being able to write an article. But do not think me proud of it. Acutely do I feel the false position in which an educational nursery has placed me. Here am I, at the age of six years, so full of learning that my hair has ceased to curl. I spend my life between historical wall-papers, and when I think I am playing at ball the chances are that I am learning multiplication. Only the other day I was inveigled into what purported to be a game at soldiers, and before I knew what I was about I was half through the Wars of the Roses. At Christmas I got a present of (apparently) a pot of jam. I opened it, and out jumped the leader of the Liberal party. No matter how careful I am, I am constantly being tricked in this way. Of course it is too late now for anything to be done for me. I am lost; and as they have got it all into me by false pretences I am a cynic as well. But there are younger children to follow, and for their sakes I appeal to parents. I would particularly implore them, as they remember their own childhood in the happy pre-educational nurseries, to set their faces against the latest abomination—the geographical carpet, which is even worse than the zoological doors, for there is no licking the paint off.

The alphabetical biscuits are not so bad. Each of them has a letter on it, which is meant to catch your eye before you can get it into your mouth. With a little care, however, you can dispose of the biscuits without preliminary annoyance, unless your nurse or mother insists on your saying the letter before she lets you eat the biscuit. There are mothers who do that; and if you give way at first, they have you into biscuits in one syllable in no time. Though I say the biscuit can be managed with comparative ease, the only sure way is to shut your eyes. Those who are inexperienced will say that it would be an easy matter to keep your eyes off the letter without shutting them. Quite so; but unless you shut them you are bound to look at something, and you can't look anywhere in an educational nursery without being caught. Say you slide the biscuit in at the left side of your mouth and keep your eyes fixed on the wall to the right; the result is that you are learning from a pictorial illustration who signed Magna Charta, or something of that sort; which entirely destroys the flavour. It is very doubtful whether a biscuit—unless perhaps at bed-time—is worth all this bother. These biscuits are "graded." That is to say, you pass from alphabetical biscuits to biscuits in one, two, and even three syllables; and then there are names-of-countries biscuits. One would expect the biscuits to get bigger as they become more difficult, but they don't. This is another illustration of the injustice of the system. Personally I gave up biscuits at the second syllable, preferring rather to go into animal gingerbread. And then look at those proverbial milk-jugs. Surely it is a little hard that a child can't take a drink of milk without being reminded for the thousandth time, by an inscription on the jug, that it is only dogs that delight to bark and bite.

I know all about Shakspeare and Milton and Rare Ben Jonson, and that class of people; but it is not my fault. It comes of not being suspicious. My little sister has a box of bricks that make into houses on weekdays and Westminster Abbey on Sundays. You get a picture of the Abbey with the box, showing how to build the bricks, and it is good enough fun in itself. But no sooner have we got the Abbey up than they pounce down on us and give us lessons on the Poets' Corner. The political ninepins are just as bad. They would make a good game if we could get to play with them ourselves, but of course that is not what is wanted. They represent nine Kings of England, and as soon as we stick them up our governess asks who can tell her which is the fifth Henry. Then you get one mark for knocking a figure down, and two if you can also say at what period he flourished. The prize varies. Sometimes it is a poetry lozenge, or it may be a toy for teaching you the months of the year. We are young and guileless, so we don't have the sense to see that we are being taken advantage of. Perhaps you don't know that we have a three-acres-and-a-cow puzzle, and a Lord Randolph Churchill who walks all the way round Sir William Harcourt. There is a Latin proverb, which no boy should know before he is fourteen, about the Greeks being most to be feared when they bring pre-

sents to you. But our own fathers and mothers are not a bit better than the Greeks in this respect; and I would strongly advise all children into whose hands this article may fall not to accept a present from anybody without having a good look at it first. I got a ship on my last birthday that takes to pieces and packs away in a box. Do you think that was an honest present? It sounds like it; but it wasn't. If it hadn't been for that box I might not have known to this day how many ounces there are in a pound. This is the way you are tricked. There are a lot of wooden squares with the ship, which are piled on the deck and called passengers' luggage. Well, no sooner have you your luggage on board than they make you count the squares, and ask, if one square weighs an ounce and there are sixteen ounces in a pound, how many squares will it take to weigh half a pound? Of course by this time you see you have been swindled again. Speaking of squares, children may be warned against them in particular, for they are the nastiest things I know of. This is because they have six sides. Before taking them from anybody examine them carefully, and the chances are that you will find one side to be geographical and another arithmetical, and so on. They have generally poetry on them too, like—

L stands for London, which is a great city;
And also for leeks, to eat which is a pity.

I am, however, inclined to think that the most invidious thing we have in our nursery is the money-box. The old style of money-box was plain and honest, and did not pretend to be anything else. It had written in big letters on it, too, "Take care of the pence and the pounds will take care of themselves." That was an honourable warning; and if any one put money into it it served him right. Ours, however, is a very different affair. It consists of a box with a donkey standing near it, and if you put a penny on the donkey's tail it kicks up one of its hind-legs and knocks the penny into the box. It is a great joke to see the donkey doing this; but of course it is only an artful way of getting our money out of us. It may be retorted that we should know better; but we are innocent and at the mercy of designing parents. Why, if any of them were to see me writing these reflections, what do you think they would say? They would badger me till I told them what ink was composed of and what other ingredients besides linen rags entered into the composition of paper! I know them; and if ever there was a child of six who was tired of this life it's

BOBBY T

CANADA AND ITS HORSE SUPPLY.

LAST summer two English officers of great experience—a cavalry colonel and a colonel in the Royal Horse Artillery—were ordered to proceed to Canada with a view of purchasing as many horses as possible as remounts for the British army. These officers, who were accompanied by the veterinary surgeon of one of the Household Cavalry regiments, were also instructed to ascertain and to report upon the extent that the mother-country could count upon Canada to furnish her with a supply of military horses in the future. The tour lasted 137 days; during which time the Commissioners travelled 20,755 miles, examined 7,674 horses, and registered 1,025 as worthy of a second inspection. But the total number of purchases that the officers in question felt justified in making was only eighty-three.

The reasons given by the Commissioners why so few animals could be bought were: that the great proportion of horses to be met with in Canada are unsound, or blemished from having been overworked or uncared for when young; that the great bulk of horses for sale in the ranches are only three years old and under; and that a very large number of the Canadian horses are too small for our cavalry, while many are too heavy for our artillery. The best horses are to be found in Ontario; and there the Commissioners made most of their purchases, having previously advertised their requirements in the local newspapers. In the ranches of the North-West Territories the horses are nearly all under age, as also along the eastern slopes of the "Rockies" and in British Columbia.

Although there is a considerable number of horses in Canada, there are at present very few suitable for our army; and though most of them are good harness-horses, comparatively few are worth their hay and corn for military purposes. An English officer stationed in the Dominion might in winter be able to buy 200 or 300 horses in Canada West, at prices varying from £32 to £38 (including the cost of transit to port), and obtain about the same number in summer, from the ranches in the North-West and in British Columbia, at from £26 to £30 each—half for the cavalry and half for the artillery. As the trade developed, more horses would, of course, be obtainable. In a country of such "magnificent distances" as Canada great delay in buying horses is absolutely unavoidable. On an emergency, however, a couple of thousand might perhaps be got in a year at a somewhat higher rate. At present Canada contains few horses fit for our cavalry and artillery, and few draught animals suitable for military service; but the ranches boast of some promising three-year-olds and young stock which very possibly may be available in future years.

Horses, as a rule, are cheaper in Canada than in England. The officers who went out to Canada last summer paid for the eighty-three horses they purchased £2,581 16s.—an average of £31 10s. 1d. for each animal. The average age of these horses was four and three-quarters years. Probably a considerable number of sound horses, suitable for transport service in a campaign, could be got for less than £45 per head (the price now paid in England). The time to buy in Lower Canada is, of course, the winter. There are no horse or cattle fairs or organized live-stock markets in Canada, as there are in other horse-producing countries and even in the United States. It would be unquestionably beneficial to the Canadian breeders if such markets could be introduced; the whole horse and cattle trade of Canada being virtually in the hands of Americans, who regulate the prices; which are so low that they make a good thing of it, even after paying an import duty of 20 per cent. on the

declared value of each animal. Last year something like 11,000 horses found their way into the United States from Canada.

The lighter and better-bred horses, which are naturally the most serviceable for military purposes, seem to have decreased in Canada—perhaps because the demand of late years has been chiefly for heavier animals. The Canadians may depend upon the mother-country becoming a good customer, provided only that the kind of horse she requires can be produced. We use up our cavalry and artillery horses at a rapid rate, and are greatly dependent on the foreigner for a supply of remounts. We draw from all sources abroad annually upwards of 16,000 horses, and we should unquestionably buy very many more if we could only get them. These facts and the considerations they involve ought to commend themselves to the serious attention of the Canadian horse breeders. When properly qualified officers, having unlimited authority to buy horses on behalf of Great Britain, can only purchase eighty-three in the whole of the Dominion of Canada, there must be something wrong somewhere. Early in the year 1886, before our Commissioners went out, Canada was scoured by a party of French officers, also intent on buying all the eligible horses they could lay their hands on; but, although their standard of excellence was not so high as our own, they only met with indifferent success.

THE TREATY OF UTRECHT.*

PARTY spirit has generally exercised a considerable influence in discussions of the Treaty of Utrecht. The arguments for and against the conclusion of peace by England in 1713, upon the terms which were arranged between St. John and De Torcy, have been stated by writers who had other considerations present to their minds besides those which directly concerned the military and diplomatic conditions of the time. In considering the termination of a Whig war and the conclusion of a Tory peace, Whig and Tory historians have been eager to justify their own party at the expense of their opponents. Tories were reluctant to admit the defects of a treaty which was opposed and censured by the moneyed men and eager Hanoverians; while Whigs have been unwilling to recognize any merits in an arrangement which owed its success to the support of High Church parsons, country gentlemen, and more or less open supporters of the Jacobite cause. The party feelings excited by the topic have, no doubt, become less violent of late years than they were at the beginning of the eighteenth century. But we still find that Lord Stanhope thought it necessary to endeavour to identify the Tories of Queen Anne's day with the Whigs of 1882 before he could allow himself to attack the provisions of the famous treaty; while Lord Macaulay consoled himself for his reluctant admission that peace was necessary at the time when it was made, by a denunciation of the methods and motives of the English statesmen who made it. It may be hoped, however, that we have survived the era of party bitterness on this subject, and that we are at last in a position to judge the question solely on its merits. This hope may be entertained all the more confidently with respect to a historian who is not an Englishman but an American. The Transatlantic historian ought not only to be free from party bias, but he ought to be able to teach some lessons of a general character which earlier writers were prevented from discovering, by their political prepossessions. He ought to estimate the position of England after the great war in comparison with her position before it; and to show how, both in the Old World and the New, the arrogance of Louis, the stubbornness of William, the genius of Marlborough, and the diplomatic skill of Bolingbroke combined to produce historical results extending beyond the immediate question whether the House of Bourbon or the House of Hapsburg was to furnish an occupant to the Spanish throne.

Mr. Gerard, the American author of "The Peace of Utrecht," approaches his subject without any disqualification arising from party spirit. He does not, however, avail himself of his impartial standpoint to draw any very important general conclusions about the period which forms the subject of his book. He is blinded not by party spirit, but by indiscriminating zeal for universal peace and religious toleration. It is, no doubt, perfectly true that Louis XIV. offended against sound morality when he refused to let the Huguenots worship in peace according to their own beliefs. It is also true that a nation which is free from war is more likely to be happy and prosperous than a nation whose members are always being called upon either to repel invasion from without or to furnish vast armies for aggression against their neighbours. It is, no doubt, a sinful act for a ruler, actuated merely by dynastic ambitions and the lust of territory, to sacrifice the substance and lives of his subjects in the pursuit of his favourite ends. But these great truths are not generally denied. It was hardly necessary to rewrite the history of the War of the Spanish Succession in order to illustrate them; and it is certain that a writer who could keep cool and retain his self-control while chronicling the misdeeds of a bygone age, would be more likely to add something to our knowledge, and to our right understanding of the facts, than such an impassioned denunciation of war and persecution as Mr. Gerard's.

Mr. Gerard is a writer of the paragraphic school. When he has to enforce a more than usually impressive truth, he not only compresses it into a sentence, but sets it out in a separate paragraph, where its weighty import will not be diminished by the immediate contact of less momentous matter. The following sample of Mr. Gerard's isolated dicta will illustrate the simple faith which he is so unnecessarily anxious to proclaim:—

Mere difference of opinion has ever been a fruitful source of strife.

Races, nations, and individuals, resolved theological questions by mutual slaughter.

These, and other unhappy truths of a like nature, are generally admitted and deplored, and it was hardly necessary to state them so conspicuously

and so emphatically in an historical review of the Treaty of Utrecht. There are, however, passages where the splendour of the metaphors may be held to atone for the triteness of the sentiments. Such a passage is the following: "The Christian dove, surviving the attacks of Paganism, as it sailed down the tide of centuries, became as a vulture smeared with gore." The last chapter of the book contains ample proof that human life has been frequently sacrificed for reasons which seem to philanthropists to be inadequate; and the satire which the existence of professional soldiers calls forth is summed up in the following remarkable paragraph: "Are we indeed as ants, and do the heavenly powers encourage licensed throat-cutting?" The comparison of religious persecutors to birds of prey is intelligible; but why should the licensed cut-throat be compared to an ant? Have the researches of modern science discovered that ants are apt to cut one another's throats? And does the elaborate polity of those remarkable insects comprise the granting of licences to perform the horrid rite?

The fascination which the emphatic repetition of the truths of elementary morality possesses for Mr. Gerard disqualifies him to some extent for the part of an historical philosopher, but it does not prevent him from being an interesting narrator. It must not be supposed that the exposition of his child-like creed occupies the whole of the book. It only occupies that part which ought to have been devoted to drawing the historical moral of his period. By far the greater part of the book is mere narrative. It is, however, narrative of a very uneven and irregular kind. Sometimes the events of several years are hurried over in a few pages. Sometimes we are suddenly halted at a comparatively unimportant event, and the historian reproduces for our benefit a letter, a pamphlet, or a memorial, which it is interesting to read *in extenso*. The most important battles are sometimes dismissed in a few words, since their details do not fall within the scope of the book; but when we arrive at the Battle of Malplaquet we are favoured with a detailed description some thirteen pages in length, the whole of which, we are told, is borrowed from Archdeacon Coxe. Many of the contemporary documents which are incorporated in the book are very interesting reading; and these frequent interludes in a rather jejune record of some twenty eventful years constitute a succession of pleasant surprises.

If Mr. Gerard does not add very much to the achievements of earlier writers on this period, he certainly finds room in his book for a good many interesting facts. He seldom gives his authorities, except when he quotes them at full length; so that his work can hardly be intended to become a standard text-book on the subject. But he has the merit of keeping the various centres of political interest in Europe pretty well in view at the same time; and our attention is skilfully recalled to what was being said or thought at Madrid or at Versailles, at some crisis which the English student is too likely to regard exclusively from the one point of view of his own country. The book is neither a general summary nor a minute and complete history. The author prefers to describe it as an "historical review;" and if that is the proper name for the species to which it belongs, it may be said that historical reviews are an entertaining and fairly instructive kind of literature.

CORRESPONDENCE.

SOMETHING LIKE AN EVICTION.

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

SIR,—At a time when the English people are bidden to gaze with shame upon the desolation of Glenbeigh, let me ask them to take a glance at something nearer home.

I am going to tell you what I have seen with my own eyes.

Not far from where I live there dwelt a humble but happy family. The lodging they occupied was poor, and admitted freely both wind and rain: however, it was their home, and was as much to them as Marlborough House is to the Prince of Wales. The family consisted of seven—one male and six females. They were all early risers, and they had industrious habits. But unfortunately the severe winter told upon them. The frost had a freezing effect in more senses than one, and they fell behind even in the modest toll demanded of them by their landlord. But they thought nothing of that, and looked forward to the spring in the firm belief that they would make up all deficiencies with ease. When last I saw them alive (do not start!) they were perfectly cheerful, and the head of the family expressed himself in the most sanguine terms.

Judge, then, of my horror when, on passing that never-to-be-forgotten spot, I saw the owner of the dwelling in the act of perpetrating a deed of incredible barbarity. It was not that he had merely evicted the unfortunate tenants. It was not even that he had rased their dwelling to the ground and, having collected the débris in a heap, had set it on fire. That was bad enough. There, the smoke and flame blown about by the wind, lay the embers of what was once a happy home. But the man had actually murdered the whole family (well may you ask, where were the police?)—three of them by strangulation and four by decapitation. Their corpses lay on the ground before me—a ghastly sight: four headless corpses, and three that might have been more fortunate even in a more bloody end. Fiercely I turned on the author of this crime. He, as fiercely, asked whether he had done more than he had a right to do—indeed, he justified himself precisely on the grounds which have been put forward in defence of far less terrible measures by the Irish landlords. My blood curdled at the sight of such atrocities committed (if it were so) by the abuse of legal power; and I resolved to spare no effort in exposing what, Sir, I hold to be, if not a legal, at all events a moral crime.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

A SUBURBAN RESIDENT.

P.S.—When the man had cooled down a bit, I asked him again why he had done this thing. "I've 'ad those hens," said the brutal fellow, "more 'n six months. They wouldn't lay, and so now I've done for 'em, coop an' all."

*"The Peace of Utrecht. A Historical Review of the Great Treaty of 1713-14, and of the Principal Events of the War of the Spanish Succession." By J. W. Gerard. (London and New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons.)

THE ST. JAMES'S GAZETTE.

FOURTH EDITION.

THE REVOLT AT SILISTRIA.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

VIENNA, March 2.—Intelligence received here this morning states that the military revolt at Silistria is being quelled. No details, however, are given.

(CENTRAL NEWS TELEGRAMS.)

BUCHAREST, Wednesday.—Despatches received here state that the insurgents at Silistria consist of 900 men of the regular army, together with 2,000 reserves. The whole population of the town are also in arms, and ammunition of all kinds is abundant. The garrison of Rustchuk have already started to the scene of the rebellion. It is believed that the garrisons at Shumla and Varna did not receive the orders from the Regency directing them to proceed to Silistria owing to the telegraph-wires having been cut by the insurgents; it is, nevertheless, expected that they will arrive there by forced marches to-morrow.

VIENNA, Wednesday.—No direct news has yet been received here respecting the rising. The *Indépendance Roumaine* estimates the number of the revolted garrison of Silistria at 3,000, and expresses an apprehension that the rebellion will extend to Widdin and Rustchuk, where intense excitement exists.

The Vienna *Tagblatt* publishes a telegram from Bucharest this morning stating that the insurrection at Silistria has been suppressed.

INCENDIARY FIRE IN UPPER BURMA.

500 HOUSES DESTROYED.

(CENTRAL NEWS TELEGRAM.)

BOMBAY, Wednesday Morning.—News arrives here by telegraph of a destructive fire which has destroyed half the town of Allanmyo and the adjoining village Yuatong. No fewer than 500 houses have been demolished. The Government buildings and the European quarter were fortunately saved. The fire was ignited with malicious intent, and the incendiaries were caught red-handed. In the confusion that followed the outbreak, the Government stores were looted by the friends of those who caused the conflagration. Great suffering is entailed upon the natives by the destruction of their homesteads and property. Several Europeans and Burmese were injured by falling timber or by burns.

RISING IN MOZAMBIQUE.—BRITISH PROPERTY DESTROYED.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

ZANZIBAR, March 2.—Taking advantage of the absence of the Portuguese squadron and troops at Tungi, the natives in the province of Mozambique have made a general rising against Portuguese authority. The insurgents have committed great havoc, several trading stations and many houses belonging to British subjects having been destroyed. The town of Mozambique itself is threatened by the rebels, and the British Consul at that place has telegraphed for her Majesty's corvette *Turquoise* to be sent in order to protect British interests.

THE BULGARIAN MINISTRY OF WAR.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

VIENNA, March 2.—Dr. Stransky, the Bulgarian Agent at Belgrade, who is coming here on leave, owing to ill-health, will during his stay in the Austrian capital be charged by his Government to ascertain the views prevailing in official circles concerning the demand for the appointment of a Russian general as Bulgarian Minister of War, it being considered at Sophia that Baron Calice, the Austro-Hungarian Ambassador at Constantinople, did not give a sufficiently definite reply to the inquiries addressed to him by the Bulgarian delegates on this subject.

THE GERMAN ELECTIONS.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)

BERLIN, March 2.—The semi-official *North German Gazette* to-day, commenting upon the results of the elections in Alsace-Lorraine says that the electors in those provinces have returned Protesters simply owing to a fear of retaliation on the part of the French in the event of war.

LÜBECK, March 2.—The second ballot in the election of a member to the Reichstag for this city has resulted in the return of Herr Fehling, National Liberal, who obtained 7,206 votes, against 5,200 polled by his opponent, Herr Schwartz, Socialist.

WALDENBURG (Silesia), March 2.—The second ballot for the election of a member of the Reichstag for this place has resulted in the return of Herr Websky, National Liberal, by 10,980 votes against Herr Ebert, New German Liberal, who polled 10,825 votes.

EARTHQUAKE SHOCK AT NICE.

(CENTRAL NEWS TELEGRAM.)

NICE, Wednesday.—There was another slight shock of earthquake here this morning. No damage was done.

ILLNESS OF THE DUCHESS OF RICHMOND.

A Chichester correspondent says:—The Duchess of Richmond is lying dangerously ill at Goodwood. Her Grace's medical attendant was summoned on Monday, but the indisposition was not then regarded as serious. This morning she is reported to be in a critical state. The meets of the Goodwood Foxhounds have been countermanded.

THE QUEEN IN LONDON.

The Queen and Princess Beatrice left Windsor Castle at half-past eleven o'clock this morning for London, their departure being witnessed by a number of spectators. The royal party drove to the Great Western Station and travelled by special train to Paddington, whence on their arrival, shortly after twelve, they drove to Buckingham Palace. The Queen will hold a Drawing Room to-morrow, and will return to Windsor on Friday.

THIS DAY'S PARLIAMENT.

The Speaker took the chair in the House of Commons at twenty minutes past twelve o'clock.

THE DEBATE ON THE PROCEDURE RULES.

Mr. Leake resumed the debate on Mr. W. H. Smith's amendment to the first Rule of Procedure, as follows: "A member rising in his place may claim to move that the question be now put, and unless it shall appear to the Chair that such motion is an abuse of the rules of the House or an infringement of the rights of the minority, the question that the question be now put shall be put forthwith and decided without amendment or debate." He was proceeding to speak on an amendment he wished to propose to the amendment, but the Speaker pointed out that the fairest question was to leave out from the rule the words "made if the consent of the Chair has been previously obtained that the question be now put." Sir George Campbell opposed the omission of these words. Mr. Sclater Booth said that the rule as it stood required the Speaker to exercise his judgment as to whether it was reasonable that the cloture should be applied. The responsibility of the Speaker, which he desired to strengthen and establish, had been entirely taken away by the amendment. He disapproved of the direction in which the Government were going. Mr. Esslemont said he had no faith in the cloture as a means of expediting the business of the House. Mr. Raikes defended the amendment as affording protection to large minorities, while the existing rule sufficiently protected small minorities. Mr. A. Elliot was satisfied with the amendment of the Government.

After some remarks from Mr. Healy, Mr. Anderson asked what were the rights of minorities, and how was the Speaker to know that they were infringed. Mr. Salt feared that the words, "abuse of the rules of the House" and "rights of minorities" would introduce a great difficulty in a matter already sufficiently complicated. Mr. Illingworth did not think the amendment of the Government was any improvement, and blamed the Government for their repeated changes of front in this matter. Mr. Osborn Morgan thought the Speaker would find it impossible to carry out the amendment of the Government. The responsibility of the cloture should be thrown upon the majority of the House. Mr. W. James feared that the amendment would weaken the authority of the Speaker. After some remarks from Mr. Gedge,

The House divided on the question whether the words "A motion shall be made" should remain in the Rule. There were—for striking out the words 190; against, 85—Majority, 105.

AGRICULTURAL DEPRESSION.

PROPOSED BOUNTY ON WHEAT GROWING.

A special meeting of the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture was held to-day at the Society of Arts, Adelphi, to consider a proposal of Mr. Poynter's for a bounty on wheat-growing. Lord Ebrington presided. Mr. Mence (of Worcestershire), who opened the discussion, said that the extensive agricultural depression prevailing was due to many causes—chiefly to foreign competition, but also to bad seasons, burdens on land (tithes and rates) increased cost of labour, railway rates, expense of manure. There was no effective remedy for the farmers by such proposals as compulsory cultivation of the soil or small holdings. To meet the depression there must be higher prices. He failed to see how to obtain such prices unless they stopped the glut of foreign imports. It was therefore only reasonable that the Government should be asked to make the foreigner pay a toll equal to the rates and taxes paid by the British farmer. He, therefore, supported the adjourned motion before the council—namely, that there should be a small toll on foreign corn, an extra toll on flour, and a duty on manufactures. Mr. Newton (of York) moved as an amendment, "That this council, while fully conscious of the severe depression under which the agriculture of the United Kingdom is suffering, is of opinion that Mr. Poynter's scheme for a bounty on home-grown wheat is impracticable." Mr. Gatty (Northamptonshire) seconded the amendment, and said that if there was any desire for a bounty they had better go at once for protection. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Harris approved of the principle of a bounty, and said that, as it would not all go into the pockets of the landlords if properly explained to the working classes of the towns, they would approve of a bounty because it would stimulate the employment of labour. A duty on wheat should, however, be set aside. Mr. C. W. Gray, M.P., urged the necessity for fiscal reform, and said that the agricultural ruin was depressing the interests of the masses. There was at hand a great battle between fiscal reform and dogmatic free trade—between the manufacturing and industrial interests and the agricultural party, and he hoped there would be a compromise. There was no true free trade, because the raw material—the land—was heavily taxed.

THE CHARGE AGAINST THE CITY CORPORATION.

The following are the terms of Mr. Howell's motion in the House of Commons as finally arranged last night:—"That a Select Committee should inquire into and report upon certain charges brought in this House by Mr. Howell and Mr. Bradlaugh, alleging the improper use and malversation of the public funds of the Corporation of London, by or with the consent of members and officials of such Corporation, with power to such committee to administer oaths and to compel the attendance of persons and the production of books and papers."

Mr. Labouchere last night assured Lord George Hamilton that the documents on which he relied to prove the case of corrupt expenditure against the Corporation had neither been "stolen nor purloined." The *Daily News* understands that when the inquiry is made not the least interesting of its results may be the discovery of how the documents, and especially the bank-book referred to in debate, fell into the hands which have made such striking use of them. The story is said to be a curious chapter of coincidence.

The London correspondent of the *Freeman's Journal* states that the documents alleged to incriminate the Corporation of London, and now in the possession of Mr. Labouchere, were obtained in a seizure for rent at the offices of the Metropolitan Ratepayers' Association, and that the others were given up by a repentant and needy clerk.

A SHIP ON FIRE.—TWENTY LIVES LOST.

A Reuter's telegram from New York says:—The steamboat *W. H. Gardner*, plying on the Tombigbee River, has been totally destroyed by fire. Twenty persons perished; and the vessel's cargo of 464 bales of cotton was destroyed.

THE COLLIERY EXPLOSION IN FRANCE.

An explosion of fire-damp occurred yesterday morning at the Chatelus Pit in the Beaubrun Collieries, near St. Etienne, France. At the time ninety miners were in the galleries. Of this number twenty escaped unhurt; while sixteen injured men and seven dead bodies were brought to bank. The fate of the men still remaining in the pit has not yet been ascertained; but it is feared that they have all been suffocated.

THE HOXTON MURDER.

Thomas William Currell, who is charged with murdering Lydia Green, at Hoxton, on the 5th of February, was again brought up at the Worship-street Police Court to-day. The first witness called was Emma Kohlmann. She stated that when she was laying out the body of the deceased she found three wounds—one on the forehead, another on the right hand, and a third on the right jaw. Around the wound on the forehead were small black spots. Mr. John Davis, surgeon, who was called in to the deceased, said that at first he thought she had fallen in a fit and injured her head; later on he examined the body, and found shot-wounds on the head, in the jaw, and through the right hand. The wound in the head was alone sufficient to have caused instant death. Two other medical witnesses who made an examination of the body of the deceased having described the injuries, Elizabeth Hearn, a widow, residing in Hampstead, said the prisoner was her nephew. On Saturday, the 5th of February, he called at her house, she having not seen him for six months. The witness inquired after the deceased, and he said that she was all right, and that he would bring her to see the witness soon.

THE EMPEROR OF BRAZIL.

A Reuter's telegram from Rio de Janeiro, dated yesterday, says:—A decided improvement is announced to-day in the condition of the Emperor of Brazil.

PRINCE ALEXANDER.

A Reuter's telegram from Darmstadt says:—To-day's bulletin concerning the condition of Prince Alexander states that his Highness slept well last night, and that his appetite is improving. The eruption is disappearing rapidly and satisfactorily, and the patient's convalescence may shortly be expected.

SAMUEL ALLSOPP AND SONS (LIMITED).

The Allsopp allotments are out at last. The number of applications was so large that the letters of regret were necessarily very numerous, and it is not surprising that those who received them complain of having been badly treated. Complaints of the kind are a matter of course when the shares are at a premium. But it is difficult to see what other course could have been adopted. There were 38,000 applicants, and all could not have been supplied. Naturally Allsopp's customers had first to be considered, and then those who seemed genuine investors, not premium-hunters.

THE "KAPUNDA" DISASTER.

Messrs. Harrison's steamer *Orator*, with the captain and crew of the *Ada Melmore*, which came in collision with the emigrant ship *Kapunda*, arrived in the Mersey this morning.

SUPPOSED SUICIDE IN A RAILWAY CARRIAGE.

On the arrival at Kentish Town of a train from Manchester last night a man was found lying dead in a third-class compartment. He had apparently shot himself with a revolver, which was by his side. The body was found to be that of Mr. Stewart Burney Darley, aged thirty-five years, lately residing at Somers-place, Hyde Park.

THIS DAY'S RACING.
CROYDON.

SELLING HUNTERS' FLAT RACE. (Two miles.)—Spark (Captain Child), 1. Rosier (Mr. Waller), 2. Silverwood (Mr. Abington), 3. Crafty (Mr. Carew), and Punchbowl (Mr. E. M. Owen) also started. Betting: 5 to 4 agst Silverwood, 100 to 30 agst Punchbowl, 7 to 2 agst Rosier, 5 to 1 agst Spark, 100 to 8 agst Crafty. Won by a head, a length and a half between second and third.

SYDENHAM HURDLE RACE. (Two miles.)—Firie (Trickane), 1. Conundrum (Barker), 2. Merry Note (Lawrence), 3. The following also started:—Flyaway Tom (Mr. Lambton), Footenoy (Collins), Lead On (Eayres), and Gosport (Mr. S. Woodlands). Betting: 6 to 4 agst Conundrum, 6 to 1 agst Firie, 6 to 1 agst Gosport, 100 to 15 agst Flyaway Tom, 10 to 1 each agst Lead On and Merry Note.

THIS DAY'S MONEY MARKET.

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

The news of the rising in Bulgaria has been received in the Stock Exchange with serious misgivings, and the markets are generally flat at an important fall in prices. Consols have declined $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., and there is a sensible reduction in Home Railways and Foreign Government Securities—particularly the political stocks. American Securities are heavy also on yesterday's market having been flat in New York at the close, some intimation of the Bulgarian news having been received there. Mexican Railway stocks have shared in the heaviness; but Grand Trunk of Canada stocks are firm on the dividend statement.

The demand for money in the open market is still very active, and the rate for short loans is $\frac{3}{4}$ to 4 per cent.; while discount is quoted $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent.

Quarter past Two.

The Stock Markets continue to be influenced by the adverse political news, the rising in Bulgaria having revived the apprehension of European complications. Consols are $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. lower than yesterday, but are a trifle above the worst point. Home Railways show a considerable and general decline, and Foreign Government Securities are flat, especially for the leading international descriptions and those more immediately reflecting the position of affairs on the Continent. Mexican Railway stocks have shared with the rest in the fall, and

so have American Securities, although some of the latter are now recovering a little. Grand Trunk of Canada stocks are firm on the dividend statement.

The following are the changes as compared with yesterday's closing prices:—In the English Funds, Consols for money and the account (April) have declined $\frac{1}{2}$ to $100\frac{1}{2}$ to $100\frac{1}{4}$ and $100\frac{1}{4}$ to 101. Reduced and New Three per Cents. $\frac{1}{2}$ to $99\frac{1}{2}$ to $99\frac{1}{4}$ ex div.; but New Two-and-a-Half per Cents. are unchanged at $88\frac{1}{2}$ to $88\frac{1}{4}$.

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

In Foreign Government Bonds, Egyptian State Domain has fallen $\frac{1}{2}$, the Unified $\frac{1}{2}$, the Preference $\frac{1}{2}$, the Daira Sanieh $\frac{1}{2}$, French Three per Cent. Rentes $\frac{1}{2}$, the Four-and-a-Half per Cents. of 1872 $\frac{1}{2}$, Greek Five per Cents. of 1881 $\frac{1}{2}$, Hungarian Gold Rentes $\frac{1}{2}$, Italian of 1861 $\frac{1}{2}$, Mexican Old Three per Cents. $\frac{1}{2}$, Peruvian of 1870 and 1872 $\frac{1}{2}$, Russian of 1871 $\frac{1}{2}$, the 1872 $\frac{1}{2}$, the 1873 $\frac{1}{2}$, Spanish Four per Cents. 5-16, Turkish Defence $\frac{1}{2}$, and Uruguay Unified of 1883 $\frac{1}{2}$.

In American Securities, Central Pacific shares have fallen $\frac{1}{2}$, Milwaukee $\frac{1}{2}$, Denver $\frac{1}{2}$, Lake Shore $\frac{1}{2}$, Louisville 1, New York Central $\frac{1}{2}$, Erie $\frac{1}{2}$, the Second Mortgage $\frac{1}{2}$, Ontario $\frac{1}{2}$, Pennsylvania $\frac{1}{2}$, Reading $\frac{1}{2}$, and Wabash Preference 2; but Atlantic First Mortgage has risen $\frac{1}{2}$.

The premium on gold at Buenos Ayres has advanced to 31.35 per cent.

The Grand Trunk of Canada statement for the past half-year shows a balance available for dividend of £183,500, which is equal to the payment of a dividend on the Four per Cent. Guaranteed stock at the rate of 7 per cent. per annum for the half-year, making, with the dividend of 1 per cent. per annum declared for the half-year to the 30th of June last, a dividend at the rate of 4 per cent. for the year 1886, leaving a balance of about £800 to be carried forward. The Chicago and Grand Trunk, after debiting all net revenue charges, shows a deficiency of £37,600 for the year ending December 31, 1886. The Detroit, Grand Haven, and Milwaukee shows a net profit of £9,340 for the same period.

The list of applications for Preference shares in the Bavarian Lead Company (Limited) will close for London and country on or before 4 P.M. on the 4th inst.

ENGLISH GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.		FOREIGN STOCK MARKETS.	
Consols	100 $\frac{1}{2}$ 100 $\frac{1}{4}$	Argentine Six per Cent. of 1868 ..	101 103
Ditto Account (March) ..	100 $\frac{1}{2}$ 101	Ditto Six per Cent. of 1871 ..	100 102 xd
Reduced Three per Cent. ..	99 $\frac{1}{2}$ 99 $\frac{1}{4}$ xd	Ditto 6p. Cent. Hard Dol. Bonds ..	71 72
New Three per Cent. ..	99 $\frac{1}{2}$ 99 $\frac{1}{4}$ xd	Austrian Four p. Ct. Gold Rentes ..	85 87
New Two-and-a-Half per Cent. ..	88 $\frac{1}{2}$ 88 $\frac{1}{4}$	Ditto Five per Cent. Silver ..	62 64
India Stock Four per Cent. ..	101 $\frac{1}{2}$ 101 xd	Brazilian Five per Cent. of 1865 ..	98 99
Ditto Three per Cent. ..	85 84 $\frac{1}{2}$ xd	Ditto Five per Cent. of 1871 ..	97 $\frac{1}{2}$ 98 $\frac{1}{2}$
Ditto Four per Ct. Rupee Paper ..	70 70 $\frac{1}{2}$	Ditto Five per Cent. of 1875 ..	98 99
Ditto 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ per Ct. Rupee Paper ..	72 $\frac{1}{2}$ 73 $\frac{1}{2}$	Ditto 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent. of 1883 ..	90 $\frac{1}{2}$ 91 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bank of England Stock ..	297 299	Buenos Ayres Six per Cent. of 1870 ..	98 $\frac{1}{2}$ 99 $\frac{1}{2}$
Metropolitan 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent. ..	106 $\frac{1}{2}$ 106 $\frac{1}{4}$ xd	Ditto Six per Cent. of 1873 ..	98 $\frac{1}{2}$ 99 $\frac{1}{2}$
COLONIAL GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.		Chilian 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent. Conversion ..	98 99
Canada 4 per Cent. of 1910-35 ..	103 $\frac{1}{2}$ 104 $\frac{1}{2}$	Chinese Six p. Ct. of 1895, March ..	110 112
N.S. Wales 4 p. Ct. of 1903-5-8-9-10 ..	101 $\frac{1}{2}$ 102 $\frac{1}{2}$	Ditto Six p. Ct. of 1895, June ..	108 110
N. Zealand 4 per Ct. Cons. Ins ..	95 97	Costa Rica 5 per Cent. Bonds A ..	67 69
Queensland 6 per Cent. 1891-95 ..	106 118	Ditto B 4 p. Ct. now 5 p. Ct. 1888 ..	60 62
S. Australian 4 p. Ct. of 1894-1916 ..	97 99	Egyptian Three p. Ct. Guarantee 1 ..	97 $\frac{1}{2}$ 97 $\frac{1}{2}$ xd
Tasmanian 6 per Ct. of 1893-1901 ..	106 100	Ditto Five p. Ct. State Domain ..	91 92
Victoria 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent. of 1904 ..	105 107	Ditto Four per Cent. Unified ..	70 $\frac{1}{2}$ 71
AMERICAN SECURITIES.		Ditto Five per Cent. Preference ..	94 $\frac{1}{2}$ 94 $\frac{1}{2}$
United States 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent. Bonds ..	111 $\frac{1}{2}$ 111 $\frac{1}{4}$	Ditto Four p. Ct. Daira Sanieh ..	67 $\frac{1}{2}$ 68
Ditto Four per Cent. ..	130 $\frac{1}{2}$ 131 $\frac{1}{2}$	Entre Rios 6 p. Ct. 1886 ..	90 92
Virginia Funded Bonds ..	53 54	Ditto 6 p. Ct. Ry. Mortgage ..	93 94
New York, Pennsylvania, and ..		French Three per Cent. Rentes ..	71 $\frac{1}{2}$ 72 $\frac{1}{2}$
Ohio First Mortgage Bonds ..	47 47 $\frac{1}{2}$	Ditto 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent. of 1872 ..	105 105 $\frac{1}{2}$
Central Pacific Shares ..	36 $\frac{1}{2}$ 37	Greek Five per Cent. of 1879 ..	77 $\frac{1}{2}$ 78 $\frac{1}{2}$
Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Pau ..	93 93 $\frac{1}{2}$	Ditto Five per Cent. of 1881 ..	59 60
Denver and Rio Grande Shares ..	25 $\frac{1}{2}$ 25 $\frac{1}{4}$	Ditto Five per Cent. of 1884 ..	59 60
Illinois Shares ..	132 133	Hungarian Gold Rentes of 1881 ..	75 75 $\frac{1}{2}$
Lake Shore and Michigan ..		Italian Five per Cent. of 1861 ..	93 $\frac{1}{2}$ 93 $\frac{1}{2}$
Southern 100-dol. Shares ..	96 $\frac{1}{2}$ 96 $\frac{1}{4}$	Mexican Old Three per Cent. ..	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ 2 $\frac{1}{4}$
Louisville and Nashville 100-dol ..		Ditto of 1864 ..	71 $\frac{1}{2}$ 72 $\frac{1}{2}$
Shares ..	61 $\frac{1}{2}$ 62	Norwegian Four per Cent. of 1880 ..	102 104
New York Central Shares ..	115 $\frac{1}{2}$ 115 $\frac{1}{4}$	Peruvian Six per Cent. of 1870 ..	75 75 $\frac{1}{2}$
New York, Lake Erie, & Western ..		Ditto Five per Cent. of 1872 ..	12 $\frac{1}{2}$ 12 $\frac{1}{2}$
100-dol. Shares ..	34 $\frac{1}{2}$ 34 $\frac{1}{4}$	Portuguese Three per Cent. ..	53 $\frac{1}{2}$ 53 $\frac{1}{4}$
Ditto Preference Six per Cent ..	74 75	Russian Five per Cent. of 1871 ..	91 91 $\frac{1}{2}$
Ditto Second Mortgage Bonds ..	100 $\frac{1}{2}$ 101 $\frac{1}{2}$	Ditto Five per Cent. of 1872 ..	92 93
New York, Ontario, and Western ..		Ditto Five per Cent. of 1873 ..	92 92 $\frac{1}{2}$
Shares ..	17 $\frac{1}{2}$ 18	Ditto 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent. of 1875 ..	85 87
Ohio and Mississippi Shares ..	27 $\frac{1}{2}$ 28	Santa Fe 5 p. Ct. N. C. Ry. Mort ..	93 100
Oregon and California Sevenp ..		Ditto 5 p. Ct. Extensions Mort ..	89 91
Cent. Preference Shares ..	19 $\frac{1}{2}$ 19 $\frac{1}{4}$	Spanish Four per Cent. ..	61 $\frac{1}{2}$ 61
Pennsylvania Shares ..	58 $\frac{1}{2}$ 59	Ditto Two per Cent. ..	46 $\frac{1}{2}$ 46 $\frac{1}{4}$
Philadelphia and Reading Share ..	18 $\frac{1}{2}$ 18 $\frac{1}{4}$	Swedish Four per Cent. of 1880 ..	102 104
Ditto General Mortgage Bonds ..	102 103	Turkish Six per Cent. Group 3 ..	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ 2 $\frac{1}{4}$
Union Pacific Shares ..	58 $\frac{1}{2}$ 58 $\frac{1}{4}$	Ditto Nine per Cent. ..	13 $\frac{1}{2}$ 13 $\frac{1}{4}$
Wabash, St. Louis, and Pacific ..		Ditto Six & Five per Ct. " 3 & 4 ..	13 $\frac{1}{2}$ 13 $\frac{1}{4}$
Ordinary Shares ..	18 $\frac{1}{2}$ 18 $\frac{1}{4}$	Ditto 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ p. Ct. Tribute Loan of 1871 ..	69 $\frac{1}{2}$ 69 $\frac{1}{4}$
Ditto 100-dol. Preference ..	29 $\frac{1}{2}$ 30	Ditto Five per Cent. of 1854 ..	92 94
BRITISH AND FOREIGN RAILWAY STOCKS.		Ditto Five per Cent. Defence ..	80 $\frac{1}{2}$ 81 $\frac{1}{2}$
Caledonian	97 $\frac{1}{2}$ 98	Uruguay Unified Five p. Ct. of 1883 ..	48 $\frac{1}{2}$ 49
Great Eastern	63 $\frac{1}{2}$ 64 $\frac{1}{2}$	BANKS.	
Great Northern Ordinary ..	110 $\frac{1}{2}$ 111 $\frac{1}{2}$ xd	Anglo-Egyptian	16 17
Ditto A	97 $\frac{1}{2}$ 98 $\frac{1}{2}$	City	18 $\frac{1}{2}$ 19 $\frac{1}{2}$
Great Western	33 33 $\frac{1}{2}$	Colonial	20 21
Lancashire and Yorkshire ..	114 115 xd	Consolidated	23 $\frac{1}{2}$ 24
London and Brighton Ordinary ..	125 126	Imperial Ottoman	9 $\frac{1}{2}$ 9 $\frac{1}{4}$
Ditto A	113 $\frac{1}{2}$ 114 $\frac{1}{2}$	London and County	81 82
London, Chatham, & Dover Ord ..	21 $\frac{1}{2}$ 22	London and Westminster	63 64
Ditto 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent. Preference ..	97 $\frac{1}{2}$ 98 $\frac{1}{2}$	London Joint Stock	36 37
London and North-Western ..	120 $\frac{1}{2}$ 121 $\frac{1}{2}$	National Provincial (41s paid) ..	49 $\frac{1}{2}$ 50 $\frac{1}{2}$
London and South-Western ..	120 $\frac{1}{2}$ 121 $\frac{1}{2}$ xd	Union of London	35 $\frac{1}{2}$ 36 $\frac{1}{2}$
Manchester, Sheffield, & Lincoln ..	65 $\frac{1}{2}$ 66 $\frac{1}{2}$	MINING SHARES.	
Ditto A	35 $\frac{1}{2}$ 36 $\frac{1}{2}$	Cape Copper	22 23
Metropolitan	108 $\frac{1}{2}$ 109 $\frac{1}{2}$	Indian Consolidated	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ 7 $\frac{1}{4}$
Metropolitan District	38 $\frac{1}{2}$ 39 $\frac{1}{2}$	Mason and Barry	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ 7 $\frac{1}{4}$
Midland	122 $\frac{1}{2}$ 123	Montana	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ 2 $\frac{1}{4}$
North British	99 99 $\frac{1}{2}$	Mysore Gold	13 15
North Eastern	151 $\frac{1}{2}$ 151 $\frac{1}{4}$	Ooregum Gold	13 15
North Staffordshire	91 92	Richmond Consolidated	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ 4 $\frac{1}{2}$
South-Eastern Ordinary	124 $\frac{1}{2}$ 125 $\frac{1}{2}$	Rio Tinto	10 $\frac{1}{2}$ 10 $\frac{1}{4}$
Ditto Deferred	102 $\frac{1}{2}$ 103 $\frac{1}{2}$	St. John del Rey	25 30
Grand Trunk of Canada Ordinary ..	129 $\frac{1}{2}$ 130 $\frac{1}{2}$	Tharsis Sulphur	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ 3 $\frac{1}{4}$
Ditto First Preference Stock ..	74 74 $\frac{1}{2}$	United Mexican	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ 2 $\frac{1}{4}$
Ditto Second Preference Stock ..	57 $\frac{1}{2}$ 58 $\frac{1}{2}$	TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE SECURITIES.	
Ditto Third Preference Stock ..	57 $\frac{1}{2}$ 58 $\frac{1}{2}$	Anglo-American	11 $\frac{1}{2}$ 12
Ditto Guaranteed	74 $\frac{1}{2}$ 75 $\frac{1}{2}$	Brazilian Submarine	10 $\frac{1}{2}$ 11
Canadian Pacific Shares	61 $\frac{1}{2}$ 62 $\frac{1}{2}$	Consolidated Telephone	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ 7 $\frac{1}{4}$
Buenos Ayres & Pac. p. Ct. Shares ..	23 $\frac{1}{2}$ 24 $\frac{1}{2}$	Direct United States	10 $\frac{1}{2}$ 10 $\frac{1}{4}$
Ditto 7 p. Ct. Debentures	125 126	Eastern	11 $\frac{1}{2}$ 11 $\frac{1}{4}$
Lombardo-Venetian	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ 7 $\frac{1}{4}$	Eastern Extension	11 $\frac{1}{2}$ 11 $\frac{1}{4}$
Mexican Ordinary	54 $\frac{1}{2}$ 55	Globe Ordinary	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ 5
Ditto Eight per Cent. First Pref ..	110 $\frac{1}{2}$ 111 $\frac{1}{2}$	Ditto Preference	11 $\frac{1}{2}$ 11 $\frac{1}{4}$
Ditto Six p. Cent. Second Pref ..	78 $\frac{1}{2}$ 79 $\frac{1}{2}$	India-rubber, Gutta-parcha, and ..	
Ditto Six per Cent. Perpetual ..	121 122	Telegraph Works	21 22
MISCELLANEOUS SHARES.		Oriental Telephone	3 25 3 25
Australian Agricultural	117 122 xd	Telegraph Construction	37 38
Anglo-Am. Brush Light (43 paid) ..	2 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	United Telephone	12 $\frac{1}{2}$ 12 $\frac{1}{4}$
Hudson's Bay	23 $\frac{1}{2}$ 24	Western and Brazilian	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ 8
National Discount	10 $\frac{1}{2}$ 11	TRAMWAY SHARES.	
Peninsular and Oriental Steam ..	59 61	Dublin	10 $\frac{1}{2}$ 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ xd
Royal Mail Steam	38 40	Glasgow	12 $\frac{1}{2}$ 13 xd
Suez Canal	76 $\frac{1}{2}$ 76 $\frac{1}{4}$	Liverpool Un. Tram. and Omnibus ..	10 $\frac{1}{2}$ 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ xd

INDIAN TROOPS FOR BURMA.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

CALCUTTA, March 2.—The 1st and 2nd Bengal Mountain Batteries embarked to-day for Burma. The three cavalry regiments which recently received orders to return to India will remain in Burma for the present.

ITALY, AUSTRIA, AND GERMANY.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

ROME, March 2.—The *Popolo Romano* to-day, referring to the renewal of the alliance between Italy and Austria and Germany, says:—"We Italians are, above all, desirous of alliances with Powers which can give the most positive guarantee for the maintenance of peace. This being so, the engagements to be entered into can evidently have no other basis than that of mutual defence. If one or other of the allied Powers wished to take the initiative of war, it could certainly do so; but it would be without the assistance of Italy; for participation in war against a nation which had given Italy no cause for hostilities would be odious."

THE QUEEN OF SPAIN.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

MADRID, March 2.—The police have discovered no trace of the individual who attempted to stop the Queen-Regent's carriage yesterday. The carriage itself shows no mark of violence. It is generally believed that the man merely intended to present a petition to her Majesty.

THE "PLAN OF CAMPAIGN" AND THE VATICAN.

It is no secret here (the Roman correspondent of the *Daily Chronicle* says) that several Irish Bishops have written to the Pope severing themselves from the recent action of Archbishop Walsh, of Dublin, and Archbishop Croke, of Cashel, in approving of the Plan of Campaign, and generally in supporting the aims of the Nationalist party. The end of the matter will undoubtedly be that Archbishop Croke, and perhaps Archbishop Walsh, will receive a warning from the Holy See to remember the grave responsibilities of their pastoral office, and to avoid the reckless advocacy of the Plan of Campaign which they seem to have taken up. Of course this monition will in no way imply a change of policy on the part of the Vatican towards the Irish question. It will, however, moderate the singular zeal of Archbishop Croke, and will probably act as a rude reminder to him that his best policy may, after all, be not to seek a popularity which may compromise his usefulness as a leader of the Catholic Church. The Irish Bishops are, at the eleventh hour, beginning to understand that they ought to be Bishops before they are politicians, and that their mission is rather to moderate than to make a situation painfully acute on all sides. If Archbishop Croke cannot learn this now he will be making a grave blunder, and he will find himself left out in the cold, not only by the Holy See, but by some of his more timid colleagues.

ZANZIBAR.

Correspondence respecting Zanzibar and the adjoining territory is issued to-day, ranging from the 16th of October, 1885, to the 24th of January last. It deals largely with the negotiations with the Sultan of Zanzibar and German Government for the conclusion of a commercial treaty, and the British scheme for the development of the Kilima-Njarodistrict. The Zanzibar Boundary Commission also takes up a portion of the correspondence. Lord Iddesleigh in August last suggested that its unfinished labours should be concluded in London. The German Government gladly assented to this, and sent Dr. Kramel to London on the 13th of October to represent that Government. In a despatch on the 29th of October, Count Hatzfeldt gave the articles of agreement regulating the various questions connected with the Sultanate of Zanzibar and the opposite East African mainland, and Lord Iddesleigh replied, on the 1st of November, accepting them. The French Government also acknowledged the agreement. The Sultan of Zanzibar signified, on the 8th of November, his adhesion to the commercial treaty with Germany, which provides for perfect freedom of commerce between the two countries; the Sultan binding himself not to allow or recognize the establishment of any monopoly or exclusive privilege of trade within his dominions. The Sultan may levy a duty not exceeding 5 per cent. on the value of all goods and merchandise, of whatever description, imported by sea from foreign countries, except on spirituous liquors containing more than 20 per cent. of alcohol, on which 25 per cent. *ad valorem* may be levied. The German Consular authority shall deal with German subjects concerned in a contravention against the tariff and Customs regulations.

HANS VON BÜLOW EXPELLED FROM THE BERLIN OPERA HOUSE.

The Berlin correspondent of the *Times* says that on Monday evening the Royal Opera House there was the scene of the following almost incredible and unheard-of incident:—

It was the first night of a new opera, entitled "Merlin," by a new composer, Philip Rüfer by name, and among those who crowded to see the novelty was Hans von Bülow, the illustrious pianist. Herr von Bülow, who was accompanied by his wife, had entered the lobby and was in the act of handing his things to the wardrobe-keeper when he was unceremoniously accosted by the liveried porter of the house and told that he must withdraw. Highly astonished at this singular interruption, the great pianist showed the two tickets which he had purchased, and begged that he and his wife might be allowed to take unmolested possession of their seats. But the liveried janitor said that he was only acting on orders given him by his master, Count Hochberg, the new Intendant-General of the Royal Theatres; and hinted that if force had to be used there were policemen at hand who would readily assist him in the execution of his duty. Hearing this, Hans von Bülow made no resistance, but, giving his arm to his wife, left the precincts of the Opera, into which he had thus been refused admittance by an emphatic threat of brute force. It appears that the authorities of the Opera had somehow got wind of Von Bülow's intended visit, and provided the porters and door-keepers with copies of his photograph, in order that they might thus be able to employ the means used for the detection of common criminals in waylaying their man. The incident created no scene at the time; but a few had witnessed it, and the knowledge of it soon got bruited about in the Opera itself, making a most painful impression on every one who heard it.

THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF CONNAUGHT.

A Reuter's telegram from Aden says:—The Duke and Duchess of Connaught left here last night on board the imperial Indian yacht *Lawrence* for Perim, Zeyla, Berbera, and Kurrachee, to which places his Royal Highness is making a tour of inspection. Obock will also be visited. The British Political Resident here will accompany their Royal Highnesses as far as Berbera.

MORE BAD CUTLASSES.

Some of the cutlasses supplied to H.M.S. *Acorn*, a sloop commissioned last week by Commander Atkinson for service on the West Coast of Africa, have been found to be defective. On a test being made on board the ship, which is now at Plymouth, it was discovered that the cutlasses would bend and remain bent, like pieces of hoop-iron.

SUICIDE OF A BANK CASHIER.

A suicide which was committed on the bridge of the Irish Great Northern Railway in Dublin last evening has, a correspondent says, caused a great sensation. A person passing at the time saw a man leaning over the parapet. Almost simultaneously a train approached at full speed. When it had arrived within a few yards of the man he deliberately walked over and threw himself down across the rails in front of the engine. The driver at once shut off steam and applied the break; but the train had passed over the man's body before it could be brought to a standstill. The driver ran back to the bridge, and found the body completely severed in two. The deceased proved to be Mr. George Gelston, cashier in the National Bank at Thurles. He was aged thirty, and was staying on a month's leave with his aunt, and was under treatment for some affection of the head. No motive can be assigned for the act other than that the man's brain was affected.

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION.

The report of the Board of Trade on emigration for 1886 shows that the number of persons who left the United Kingdom for places out of Europe was 330,801, an increase of 66,416 over the previous year. 232,000 of these emigrants were of British and Irish origin, an increase of 25,256 over the previous year. The increase is especially marked among emigrants of foreign origin. The increase in emigrants of British and Irish origin is 12 per cent., the number now reached, however, being 10,000 less than in 1884, and 87,000 short of the very high figure reached in 1883. The immigration returns show that last year the total number arriving was 108,879, a decrease of 4,670 over the previous year; and of these 80,018 were immigrants of British and Irish origin, a decrease of 5,450. The excess of emigrants over immigrants was 221,922, the proportion of persons of British and Irish origin being 152,882. The nationality of the emigrants was: English, 146,301; Scotch, 25,323; Irish, 61,276. The increase in Irish emigration was about 2 per cent.; while in the case of English and Scotch the increase was nearly one-sixth. More than 70 per cent. of the emigrants went to the United States, Australia coming next.

WRECK AND GREAT LOSS OF LIFE.

The captain of the steamer *Gaelic*, which has arrived at San Francisco from China, reports that a Chinese junk sailing from Hainan for Siam has been wrecked, and that of 600 men, passengers and crew, on board, only six are known to have escaped.

A LOVER SHOT IN MISTAKE FOR A BURGLAR.

A remarkable action was heard at Llangefni yesterday, before Judge Horatio Lloyd. The defendant was Mr. W. A. Jones, living at Plas Hen, Llanddaniel, and the plaintiff a farm-servant, named William Owen. The plaintiff was acquainted with a female servant in the defendant's house, and, returning late at night from Llangefni, he resolved, according to the custom of the country, to pay the girl a visit. Having approached Mr. Jones's house, he threw sand against the window of the room in which the girl slept. Mr. Jones, hearing a noise, and thinking it was caused by burglars, seized a loaded gun and went out to arrest them. Hearing retreating footsteps, he fired in that direction. The shot took effect in Owen's legs and body, and the injuries inflicted were so severe that he was confined to his bed. Mr. Bryn Roberts, M.P., appeared for the plaintiff, and contended that he was entitled to substantial damages from the defendant in consequence of his negligence. Mr. Honoratus Lloyd, who appeared for the defendant, maintained that the injuries must be attributed to the plaintiff's misconduct. The jury, however, awarded the plaintiff £35 damages.

DISTRESSED IRISH LADIES.

On next Tuesday and Wednesday there will be held in the Queen's Gate Hall, close to the South Kensington Station, a sale of work, for the benefit of Irish ladies who have been reduced to distress in consequence of the present disturbed state of affairs in Ireland. Miss Phillips, of Mildmay Park, having been much moved by the accounts received of the terrible distress in which widows and single ladies in Ireland had become involved from the above-mentioned cause, conceived the idea of enabling them to help themselves by doing plain and fancy needlework, for which she would try to find a sale. Miss Phillips has already distributed about £1,000 in ready-money payment for work done by such distressed ladies; and, should the forthcoming sale prove successful in disposing of their work thus purchased, she will have another £1,000 with which to carry on her benevolent scheme. The sale will be held under the patronage of Princess Christian, Princess Mary Adelaide, and Princess Victoria of Teck.

The Queen will hold a Council at Windsor on Monday.

Prince George of Wales, accompanied by Captain Stephenson, arrived at Malta to-day from Cannes.

Lord Salisbury will receive a deputation on tithe from the Essex Chamber of Agriculture on Friday, at the Foreign Office.

Subscriptions towards the national memorial to Lord Iddesleigh are being rapidly received, and there is every probability of the donations reaching a sum fully adequate to the requirements of the committee for the erection of a statue in St. Stephen's Hall, Westminster.

A St. Petersburg telegram says:—M. de Staal left there last evening, on his way back to London.

Mr. Hubert Herkomer, Slade Professor of Fine Art, has been elected an honorary fellow of All Souls' College, Oxford.

An anonymous donation of £2,000 has been made to the fund just opened by the Sons of the Clergy Corporation at the request of the Archbishop of Canterbury. The amount already received exceeds £4,000.

The next dinner of the Constitutional Union will be held at St. James's Restaurant, Piccadilly, on March 23, when Lord John Manners will preside, and a discussion will take place on the agricultural question.

We are asked to say that there is no truth in the statement which we copied from the *Manchester Examiner*, to the effect that the biography of the late Lord Iddesleigh has been entrusted by Lady Iddesleigh and her family to Mr. Lloyd C. Sanders.

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

THE MILITARY REVOLT IN BULGARIA.

The news that the garrison at Silistria has revolted against the Bulgarian Regency has caused considerable excitement, but no surprise, in Vienna, as suggesting the possibility of the incident being made a pretext for an immediate Russian occupation of Bulgaria. According to advices received in Bucharest yesterday, the troops who have revolted number several thousand men, and it is added that a similar movement is feared at Widdin. Communication between Silistria and other towns has become very difficult. All the available troops at Shumla and Varna have been despatched to Silistria. The Bulgarian officers who were compromised in the deposition of Prince Alexander are stated to be concerned in the present rising. Telegraphing last night, the Vienna correspondent of the *Standard* says:—

Up to ten o'clock to-night no confirmation had been received here of the news circulated by the Agence Havas that the Silistria garrison had risen against the Bulgarian Regency, and that the garrisons of Varna and Shumla were marching on Silistria. Meanwhile, the circumstance that no telegrams whatever have been received all day from Sophia, or, indeed, from any part of Bulgaria, causes considerable uneasiness, fears being entertained that the disturbances may be spreading, and may even have reached the capital. The proclamation of a state of siege in certain districts along the Danube also tends to give colour to the alarming reports that are current. The Pan Slavists and refugees have always confidently predicted that the so-called revolution would break out simultaneously at several points. It would be difficult to find in all Bulgaria a more suitable spot for a *pronunciamento* than the strong old Danubian fortress which, according to the Berlin Treaty, ought to have been razed to the ground years ago. If the insurrection were successful there it might very soon spread all over Eastern Bulgaria, while if unsuccessful the insurgents will be able readily to escape across the Danube to Roumania. The seriousness of this piece of intelligence, if confirmed, it would be difficult to exaggerate. The rising of the whole of such a garrison without any obvious reason would go to demonstrate the correctness of Russia's contention, to the effect that the Bulgarian army is really divided against itself. In that case, if the insurrection should not be quelled very quickly, the event may yet prove to be of the most sinister significance. Russia is prepared for the worst, and the same may be said of Austria. A single spark would suffice to kindle a conflagration of almost unparalleled magnitude. At this moment the suspicions of Turkey have by some means been suddenly aroused. On the Montenegrin frontier, for instance, where the Vali of Scutari had for some time been quietly looking on, while war material was being disembarked at Antivari for Prince Nicholas's army, and where at the Prince's invitation he had witnessed the experiments with the new Krupp guns, this Turkish functionary has suddenly forbidden the ammunition wagons for Montenegro to pass through Turkish territory.

Ten railway carriages laden with artillery ammunition and fifteen carriages with new Krupp guns have just been allowed to pass through Austrian territory *en route* to Bulgaria.

The Servian Government is stated to have caused all the Bulgarian refugees to be arrested. Rigorous measures are taken to prevent the organization of conspiracies in King Milan's dominions. The Bulgarian refugees in Roumania are trying to promote agitations in the towns bordering on the Danube. A man named Lazaroff, of Vratza, who was one of the active agents in the murderous outrage committed at Dubniza on the day of the elections in October last, and who then succeeded in making his escape, was discovered recently at Djuma on the frontier, endeavouring to make his way back into Bulgaria by means of a passport issued by General Kaulbars. He is now in safe custody at Salonica.

The Sophia correspondent of the *Daily News* says:—In a conversation on Monday with the President of the Council he informed me that the Government had concluded in England a loan of 20,000,000 fr. at 6 per cent., the issue price being 93. The arrival of the authorized financial agent is expected shortly.

THE SUPPOSED MURDER OF COLONEL FENDALL.

The inquest on the body of Colonel Fendall was opened in Birmingham yesterday. The deceased was identified by his brother, the Reverend C. B. Fendall, of Bagshot, and by Captain Wiltshire, of Shrewsbury. He was about fifty-nine years of age and unmarried. The evidence showed that on Saturday he drew £18 from the paymaster at Shrewsbury to go to Birmingham. A cabman named Vernon deposed that on Saturday night he was hailed by the woman Rooney, who asked him to go with her to Bagot-street. He drove her there, and she alighted and went into a house, requesting him to follow her. On entering, he saw a man, who was only partially dressed, stretched on a sofa in an unconscious state. On going towards him he saw blood on his shirt. He asked who it was, and Rooney replied that she did not know. They put on his waistcoat and jacket; and the witness suggested that they had better remove him to the hospital. Rooney assented, remarking, "You must say that you found him in Lichfield-road or Aston-road." They carried him to the cab. The woman also got in, and the witness drove to the hospital. Another witness deposed to seeing the deceased go into the house in Bagot-street in company with Rooney. The inquiry was then adjourned till the 8th inst. When the deceased was brought to the hospital he had only his gold watch and 4s. in money upon him. His scarf-pin, which was very valuable, silk handkerchief, and great-coat have disappeared.

The police have not discovered any fresh circumstances tending to clear up the mystery. Rooney's story is to the effect that she met the deceased outside the Grand Theatre, and that he wished to go home with her. He was drunk. They went into one or two public-houses on the way to Bagot-street, and when they got there it was nearly eleven o'clock. A few minutes after they entered the house she went upstairs to the bed-room, and while there she heard the noise of a fall. She came down, and found the deceased lying on the floor, partly dressed, at the foot of the stairs on his back, and bleeding from the ears and the nose. He was moving, and she lifted him up, and he stood for a minute and then reeled over to the couch. She held him up, and was able to get him laid on the couch. He was then insensible, and she at once went out and called the cabman and had him taken to the General Hospital. She positively denied that there was any quarrelling whatever, and said that Lester was not in the house. The room downstairs is a miserably small and dirty apartment, and the staircase that leads to the bed-room is narrow, steep, and very dark, with the three bottom steps protruding into the kitchen. The police searched the house and took possession of a poker and the broken remains of a champagne-bottle, with which it is suggested that the injury to the head might have been inflicted.

A THIEVES' SUPPER.

A select company of 150 thieves sat down to supper in Glasgow the other night. Each guest was provided with a ticket with the inscription:—

— ADMIT BEARER
TO
A SUPPER
OF BEEF STEAK PIE AND PLUM PUDDING,
SPECIALLY FOR THIEVES,
On Thursday Evening, 17th February, at 6.30 o'clock,
In Tolbooth Hall, 10, High-street.

This Supper is only for men who have been convicted of theft.

NED WRIGHT
(from London)

Who was himself a CONVICTED BURGLAR and PRIZE-FIGHTER, will make some interesting statements, and, it is hoped, will be able to point out a variety of ways of escape, which have already proved to be a great blessing to others.

As the number is limited to 150, come early and secure your seat.

On the reverse of the card was the following intimation:— "Should any wish to enter the hall without being observed, they may do so by the back door, entering by Old Exchange-court, a few doors nearer the Cross." The convicts—real and would-be—had to pass under Ned Wright's review, and not a few of them were rejected as impostors. The features of the evening were the want of liquor, the want of speeches, and a performance by Ned Wright's daughter on a violin once belonging to the notorious Charles Peace. The guests seem to have behaved themselves satisfactorily, and had proper respect for the knives, forks, and spoons, as one of the onlookers remarked at the finish of the feast, that "A better ordered congregation could not have been found in a West-end church."

RIOTS IN SARDINIA.

Serious troubles have arisen in Sardinia owing to the expected failure of two important financial institutes—the Savings Bank of Cagliari and the Agricultural and Industrial Bank. The markets have been broken up and the shops closed. At Cagliari disturbances took place on Monday. A great crowd having assembled, some rioters began throwing stones at the few open shops. Unfortunately the crowd was fired upon, and this made matters worse, although the police officer who had given orders to fire was immediately arrested. The Government, together with the directors of the Bank of Naples and the National Bank, have decided to send delegates to examine the books of the bankrupt establishments, to see what steps can be taken.

THE STATE OF IRELAND.

The Irish Conservative members held a meeting yesterday afternoon to consider various questions affecting Ireland. Among those present were Colonel Saunderson, Messrs. King-Harman, A. H. Smith-Barry, William Johnston, W. Macartney, and Captain McCalmont. A discussion arose as to what course should be pursued with respect to the Irish measures proposed by the Parnellite members as well as to the anticipated Bills applicable to Ireland which it was understood were to be introduced by the Government. Several propositions were made, but it was ultimately decided to postpone the whole matter until the discussion on the new Rules of Procedure was further advanced. A number of the members intimated that they had received important information from different places in Ireland as to the state of affairs in that country. In these communications it was narrated that not only were the old forms of boycotting and intimidation rampant and widespread, but that new forms of these and other illegal practices were being introduced by the Nationalists. It was decided that the information should be put into a summarized form, and as speedily as possible laid before the members of the Government.

At the sitting of the Clare grand jury yesterday, a resolution was passed unanimously, calling the attention of the Government to the existing condition of affairs in the county, representing that the effect of the disorganized state of society was disastrous, not alone to the landowners, but to those engaged in trade, and to the farmers themselves, and to the labouring classes, who are suffering most of all, when confidence, capital, and credit are driven out of the country by certain combinations; and urging the absolute necessity of putting an end without further delay to the existing state of affairs.

At the sitting yesterday of the county Limerick grand jury, a memorial was received from the cess-collectors intimating their inability to collect the taxes unless the warrants were directed to the constabulary for execution. Goods seized for non-payment of county cess were as unsaleable now as if the seizures were for rent. The grand jury postponed action in the matter.

The solicitors of Lord Massereene have been informed by the Reverend J. Rock, C.C., that the rents of his lordship have been collected under the Plan of Campaign, and will be paid over on a reduction being made of 20 per cent. on judicial and 25 per cent. on non-judicial holdings.

A Loughrea telegram reports that a house, belonging to a herd named King, who was care-taking a farm at Peterswell, and had previously occupied a boycotted farm, has been completely wrecked by an explosion. Police patrols were in the neighbourhood at the time, but no clue has been obtained to the perpetrators. Mr. Byrne, divisional magistrate, Athlone, and Mr. O'Brien, county inspector, visited the place yesterday.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

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

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

DUTY. Knowest thou yesterday, its aim and reason Workest thou well to-day for worthy things, Calmly wait to-morrow's hidden season, Need'st not fear what hap: so ever it brings VEGETABLE MOTO.

CLARKE'S World-famed BLOOD MIXTURE is warranted to cleanse the blood from all impurities, from whatever cause arising. For scrofula, scurvy, skin and blood diseases, and sores of all kinds, its effects are marvellous. Thousands of testimonials. In bottles, 2s. 6d., and in cases containing six times the quantity, 11s. each, of Chemists everywhere.

CHARGE OF CORRUPT EXPENDITURE BY THE CITY CORPORATION.

In the House of Commons last night, at the end of the questions, Mr. Howell obtained leave to move the adjournment of the House for the purpose of raising a question of urgent public importance—namely, the action of the Corporation of London in corruptly spending public money in order to influence the decisions of the House. Mr. Howell went on to explain, in a long speech, that he referred to bogus meetings and other imitations of public sentiment against Sir William Harcourt's Government of London Bill which were got up in 1884 by a society under the name of the Ratepayers' Protection Society, the funds of which, he said, were furnished by the Corporation; and this expenditure, he contended, under the circumstances was corrupt. He made these charges, he said, on the authority of a newspaper which he did not name, and, while not asserting that the numerous allegations which he read from a written statement were true, he urged that the House should cause an inquiry to be made.

So far as he had been able to ascertain the amount, the expenditure in one year amounted to something like £15,000, and in the year previous to something like £5,000, making a total of £20,000. He would particularly refer to the expenditure of £8,950. Of this sum £5,800 was disbursed by Mr. Remembrancer, by the order of the special committee of which Sir Robert Fowler was a member; £200 was spent by the Town Clerk (Sir J. Monckton) for extra assistance, and £2,950 by the City Solicitor (Sir J. Nelson). The expenditure, so far as he was aware, might be divided under something like nine heads: First, there was the hire of halls; secondly, printing and stationery; thirdly, the payment of speakers; fourthly, the committee's expenses; fifthly, the cost of stewards and chasers-out; sixthly, the hire of audiences; seventhly, the cost of advertising the resolutions passed at bogus meetings and conferences; eighthly, remuneration of the secretary (which was £80 a month, or £960 a year); and ninthly, the remuneration of reporters. He would call attention to a few of the meetings, in order to show how the expenditure worked out. Taking, first, the Battersea meeting, he found that the hall cost £2 2s.; and services of organizers and speakers, £16 11s. Amongst the organizers' names were some which occurred over and over again in the accounts. There was a Mr. Sabin, £5; Mr. W. A. Coote, who he supposed was the gentleman well-known in connection with the Social Purity movement, £3 3s.; Mr. O'Phelan, £2 2s.; Mr. Wilson, £2 2s.; and Captain Pfoundes, F.R.G.S., a further sum. Then there were services of the committee, £12; stewards, £1 10s.; and hire of attendants "to compose the meeting," £15. The next item was a payment to reporters for reporting these bogus meetings in the newspapers of the country, £3 13s. 6d., and then there were "petty cash expenses" £7 7s. 11½d. The total for this one meeting was £58 4s. 5½d. Another example was the Brixton meeting, where the hire of the hall was £3 3s.; services of lecturers, chairmen, and speakers' cost £12 12s.; reporters £2 2s.; and attendants to make the meeting £13 5s., making a total of £31 12s. Then there was a meeting at the Peacock Tavern, Islington, for which it was asserted that one G. Donati drew from the committee £6 4s. The Paddington meeting, which was to declare the public opinion of the Irishmen of the metropolis, was held at the Hibernian Club. The only entry in the accounts was "Mr. O'Phelan, see [report in] *St. James's Gazette*, £5." Then there was a conference of London Democrats, held at 29, Bouverie-street. It was entered "Conference, Sabin and friends, £5; reporter, £1 1s." Five persons were present at this important conference. Another conference was held of delegates of West London Workmen's Organisation, in Montpelier Tavern, on the 13th of May, 1884. At this important conference a Mr. Peters presided, the same person presumably who was addressed by Lord Salisbury in a letter which had been published as "My Dear Peters." Thirteen persons all told were present. The prominent speakers, in addition to the distinguished chairman, were Mr. Kelly, Mr. Price, the reporter, Mr. Murray, and Mr. Chandler; and an eyewitness declared that drinks were freely paid for at this tavern, and that people were also taken to another tavern and there treated. On the 12th of May, 1884, a meeting was held in the Princes' Hall, Piccadilly, at which the honourable member for Devonport presided, and the noble lord the member for the Ealing Division of Middlesex delivered a vigorous speech. The occasion seemed to have been to hear an address from the late Mayor of New York, who was alleged to have been a famous member of the Tammany Ring, and who came over to give his services in connection with this movement for preventing the passing of the Bill for the Better Government of London. This meeting was a rather expensive one. It cost £147 19s. 8d., besides which a Mr. Kelly was paid for 132 men "to help to make the meeting," £32 10s.; for the services of committee and expenses there was an item of £12; and for stewards and chasers-out, £2 10s. One item of expenditure in connection with this movement seemed to have been for the purpose of breaking up peaceful meetings lawfully called for a lawful purpose. At one meeting at the Bridge House Hotel, an attempt was made to storm the platform. That cost £26 15s. On May 29 attempts were also made to break up meetings at Bermondsey and Walworth, and the cost was entered at £15 3s. Some of the Social Purity men made their appearance again at these meetings. Then a supreme effort seemed to have been made to break up a meeting in the Kensington Town Hall. Organizers, speakers, canvassers, and stewards were put down at £25 7s.; reporters, shorthand-writers, and clerk at £12; assistants, imported disturbers from other localities, £26 19s.; personal expenses and petty cash, £12 6s. 2d. The total was £81 1s. 8d. Evidence could be adduced to support these allegations if an inquiry was instituted. Another form of this bogus agitation was the attempt ostensibly made to procure charters for the incorporation of certain districts of London so as to throw obstacles in the way of the Government of London Bill. The association under whose auspices many of these meetings were held was called the Metropolitan Ratepayers' Protection Association. He could not believe that honourable and right honourable members would have acted in conjunction with this association if they had known the facts of the case. The total *bond fide* subscriptions and donations to this association, so far as he had been able to ascertain, were £26, and the expenditure, according to its own accounts, was £3,040 11s. in 1884 to the end of July alone. The difference between the income and the expenditure was supplied to the honorary secretary and others by cheques, and if an inquiry were instituted those cheques could be traced.

Sir Robert Fowler thought that the proper course for Mr. Howell would have been to move for a Committee. The Corporation would not shrink from any inquiry if it were conducted by impartial men; and there ought to be at least three from each front bench, in whose judgment confidence would be placed. In the meantime, pointing out that Mr. Howell had not given the smallest authority for his statements, he said he should treat them as "anonymous tittle-tattle," and would not assist the designs of those who wished to waste the time of the House by discussing them. Mr. Bradlaugh pledged himself, if a Committee were granted with power to administer the oath, to prove Sir Robert Fowler's corrupt complicity with the expenditure; and Mr. Labouchere caused some laughter by avowing that he was responsible for the statements read by Mr. Howell, and that he had received them mostly in shorthand, and kept them at hand in a "burglar-proof safe." Lord George Hamilton said the Government would assent to an inquiry if it was extended to the actions of other associations of the same kind; but it must not be assumed that the Government believed the allegations. Mr. Gladstone, who pointed out that the actions of political associations generally were not involved in the question, insisted that it was the duty of the Government, as a specific charge of corruption by a public body had been made, to cause an inquiry to be made into its accuracy. Mr. W. H. Smith repeated that the Government would grant an

inquiry if a distinct statement of the charges were laid upon the table; and, after some further discussion, in the course of which Mr. L. Cohen, indignantly repudiated the insinuations against Sir Robert Fowler, Mr. Howell, who had left the House in company with Mr. Bradlaugh, Mr. A. Morley, and Sir William Harcourt, returned and read the terms of his motion for an inquiry; and, Mr. W. H. Smith having promised to state on Thursday what course the Government would take about it, the motion for the adjournment was withdrawn.

MR. BRIGHT'S ABOUT KLEA STORY.

In reply to his communication on the subject of Mr. Bright's speech concerning the conduct of the British soldiers at Abou-Klea, Mr. Charles Williams has received the following letter from the right honourable gentleman:—"Alexandra Hotel, Feb. 28, 1887. Sir,—I have nothing to withdraw or explain in regard to the speech to which you refer.—Yours respectfully, JOHN BRIGHT." Mr. Williams has sent the following acknowledgment:—"Press Club, Fleet-street, March 1, 1887. Sir,—Then you do your reputation the more wrong.—Yours truly, CHARLES WILLIAMS."

THE RECENT EARTHQUAKES.

Complete returns of the loss of life caused by the earthquake in the Italian Riviera are published. The following is the official list of dead and wounded:—Alasio, 3 dead, 8 wounded; Albenga, 30 wounded; Albissola, 3 dead, 12 wounded; Bajardo, 230 dead, 30 wounded; Bussano, 80 dead, 27 wounded; Castellaro, 41 dead, 65 wounded; Ceriana, 5 dead, 12 wounded; Diano Castello, 35 dead, 10 wounded; Diano Marina, 180 dead, 65 wounded; Montalto Ligure, one dead, 3 wounded; Noli, 16 dead, 12 wounded; Oneglia, 23 dead, about 150 wounded; Pompeiana, 5 dead, 7 wounded; Porto Maurizio, one dead, 10 wounded; Savona, 11 dead; Taggia, 8 dead, 14 wounded; Triora, 4 dead, 9 wounded. The homeless persons number 20,000, and the material losses amount to about £2,000,000. The damage falls mostly on industrious villagers, with little means, whose destitution is complete.

THE LEVEE.

By command of the Queen a Levée was held yesterday afternoon at St. James's Palace by the Prince of Wales on behalf of her Majesty. Presentations to his Royal Highness at this Court are by the Queen's pleasure considered as equivalent to presentations to her Majesty. The Prince of Wales, accompanied by Prince Albert Victor, attended by his gentlemen-in-waiting and escorted by a detachment of the 2nd Life Guards, arrived at the garden entrance of the palace, from Marlborough House, about two o'clock, and was received by the Great Officers of State and the Royal Household. The Duke of Cambridge arrived from Gloucester House, attended by Major-General Bateson. Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, Prince Henry of Battenberg, Prince Victor of Hohenlohe-Langenbourg, and the Duke of Teck also attended the Levée. Her Majesty's Body Guard of the Honourable Corps of Gentlemen-at-Arms was on duty in the State saloons under the command of the Earl of Rosslyn. The Royal Body Guard of the Yeomen of the Guard was on duty in the interior of the Palace under the command of the Earl of Kintore, the captain. A guard of honour of the 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards was mounted in the court of the palace, and a guard of honour of the 2nd Life Guards was mounted in the Marlborough Court. Presentations to the number of about 220 were made to the Prince of Wales.

ANECDOTES OF NAPOLEON BONAPARTE.

In the second and last instalment of his remarkable essay on Napoleon Bonaparte, which appears in the current number of the *Revue des Deux Mondes*, M. Taine cites several curious anecdotes in proof of the impulsive and electric character of the conqueror. The Malatestas and Borgias of the country whence came the ancestors of the great Corsican were not more sudden and vehement in their emotions and desires. With Napoleon no idea was simply speculative. It needed instantaneous realization, and his thought, as was said by De Pradt, became a passion as it grew. On one occasion, when discussing the terms of the concordat with Volney, he gave the senator a kick in the stomach which sent him to bed for a week. When suddenly surprised by Josephine at St. Cloud with a lady, he dashed after his wife, who had only time to escape, and in the evening showed his anger by breaking the furniture near his hands. On another occasion, before the Empire, he treated Berthier in a scurvy manner in presence of a room full of people. Talleyrand, in his quizzical way, told Berthier that his master was thinking of proclaiming himself King, whereupon the ill-advised courtier went over to compliment the First Consul. Napoleon's eyes darted fury at the word "king," and, putting his fist under the chin of the unlucky Berthier, he pushed him towards the wall, saying, "Idiot, who sent you here to raise my bile?" He swore and stamped while dictating to his secretaries, and in dressing himself often flung his clothes in the fire if they did not suit him.

THE HEALTH OF LONDON.

The return of the Registrar-General shows that in London 2,769 births and 1,690 deaths were registered during last week. Allowing for increase of population, the births were 119, and the deaths 130, below the average numbers in the corresponding weeks of the last ten years. The annual death-rate per 1,000 from all causes, which had been 17.6 and 19.3 in the two preceding weeks, further rose last week to 20.9. During the first eight weeks of the current quarter the death-rate averaged 20.9 and was 3.2 below the mean rate in the corresponding periods of the ten years 1877-86. The 1,690 deaths included 52 from measles, 17 from scarlet-fever, 14 from diphtheria, 35 from whooping-cough, 10 from enteric fever, 17 from diarrhoea and dysentery, one from cholera infantum, and not one from small-pox, typhus, or ill-defined forms of continued fever. The fatal cases of measles exceeded the corrected average by 21; 4 belonged to Hammersmith, 5 to Stepney, 7 to Lambeth, and 4 to Greenwich sanitary areas. The deaths referred to diseases of the respiratory organs, which had been 364, 373, and 392 in the three preceding weeks, further rose last week to 466, but were 18 below the corrected average. Different forms of violence caused 55 deaths: 48 were the result of negligence or accident, among which were 16 from fractures and contusions, 10 from burns and scalds, one from drowning, 3 from poison, and 17 of infants under one year of age from suffocation. Six cases of suicide were registered.

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THE TRIALS OF A COUNTRY PARSON.

In the *Nineteenth Century* Dr. Jessopp gives some account of the various trials of country clergymen in East Anglia.

A QUESTION OF INCOME.

As regards the income of his class he says:—

It may be laid down as a fact not to be disputed, that hardly one per cent. of the country clergy ever *touch* the full amount which theoretically they are entitled to receive. In the case of parishes where the land is much subdivided, and where there are a number of small tithepayers, it would be almost impossible for the clergyman personally to collect his dues; he almost invariably employs an agent, who is not a likely man to do his work for love. Even the agent can rarely get in all the small sums that the small folk ought to pay. Even he has to submit to occasional defalcations, and to consider whether it is worth while to press the legal rights of his employer too far. Moreover, the small folk from time immemorial have expected something in the shape of a tithe-dinner or a tithe-tea, for which the diners or the tea-drinkers do not pay, you may be sure; this constitutes a not inconsiderable abatement on the sum total of receipts which ought to come to hand at the tithe audit. Taking one year with another, it may be accepted as a moderate estimate that the cost of collecting his tithe *plus* bad debts in some shape or other, amounts to 6 per cent.; and he who gets within 7 per cent. of his clerical income gets more than most of us do. But the law allows of no abatement in respect of this initial charge; and because the law takes up this ground, the world at large assumes that the nominal gross income of the benefice does come into the pockets of the incumbent. The world at large is quite certain that nobody in his senses makes a return of a *larger* income than he enjoys; and if the parson pays on £500, people assume that he does not get *less* from his living than that. The world at large does not know that the parson is not asked to make a return. The surveyor makes up his books on the tithe commutation table for the parish, and on that the parson is assessed, whatever he may say.

WHAT IS EXPECTED OF HIM.

The country parson has always to pay a little—just a very little—more than any one else for most things that come to his door.

The market has always risen when he wants to buy, and has always suddenly fallen when he wants to sell. The small man's oats are invariably superior to any one's when he has a small parcel to dispose of to the parson. As to the price of hay, when the parson has to buy it, that is truly startling. I never see half a rood of carrots growing in a labourer's allotment, but I feel sure I shall have to buy those carrots before Christmas; and, sorry as I am to observe how rarely any fruit-trees are ever planted in a poor man's garden, I reflect that perhaps it is just as well, for already the damsons and the apples that besiege the rectory are almost overwhelming. I never ask what becomes of them, but it is morally and physically impossible that they should be eaten under this roof. "But, my dear, you must buy Widow Coe's damsons; nobody else will, you know!" This is what I am told is considering the poor people. That is our way of putting it. You, Mr. Worldly Wiseman, you call it demoralizing them. Then, too, the country parson is expected to "encourage the local industries." I wonder whether they make pillow-lace in Bedfordshire as they used. If they do, and especially if the demand for it in the outer world has waned, the country parsons' wives in that part of England must have a very trying time of it.

BUYING A HORSE.

It is, however, when the country parson has to buy a horse that he finds himself tried to the uttermost.

Day after day, from all points of the compass, there appear at his gate the cunningest of the cunning and the sharpest of the sharp; and if at the end of a week the parson has not arrived at the settled conviction that he is three-parts of a fool, it is impossible for him to dispute that the whole fraternity of horsey men feel no manner of doubt that he is so. Now, I don't like to be thought a fool; not many men do, unless they hope to gain something by it. The instinct of self-preservation or the hope of a kingdom might induce me to play the part of Brutus; but in my secret heart I should be buoyed up by the proud consciousness of superior wisdom. When, however, it comes to a long line of rogues—one after another for days and days without any collusion—continuing to tell you to your face, almost in so many words, that you certainly are a fool—it really ceases to be monotonous, and becomes after a while vexatious. The fellows are so clever, too; they have such an enviable fluency of speech; they are possessed of such a rich fund of anecdote, such an easy play of fancy, such a readiness of apt illustration, and such a magnificent command of facial contortion, expressive of the subtlest movements of the heart and brain, that you cannot but feel how immeasurably inferior you are to the dullest of them in dialectic. But why should a man, when he asks you to try his charger, bring it round to the doorstep, tempting you to get up on the off side?—what does he gain by it? Why should he tell you that "this horse was a twin with that as Captain Dixie drives in his dog-cart"? Why should he assure you, upon his sacred honour, that "that Roman nose will come square when the horse gets to be six years old—they always do"? or that you always find bay horses turn chestnut if they're clipped badly? These men would not try these fictions upon any one else; why should I suffer for being a country parson by being told a long story—with the most religious seriousness—of "that there boss as Mr. Abel had, that stopped growing in his fore-quarters when he was two and went on growing with his hind-quarters till he was seven—that boss that they called Kangaroo, 'cause he'd jump anything—anything under a church tower, only you had to give him his head?" I used to get much more irritated by this kind of thing when I was less mellowed by age than I am; and I have learnt to be more tolerant even of a horse-dealer than I once was. In an outburst of indignation one day, I turned angrily upon one of the fraternity, and said to him, "Man! how can you go on lying in this way; why won't you deal fairly, instead of always trying to take people in?" The man was not a bit offended—indeed he smiled quite kindly upon me. "Lor', sir, do you suppose we never get took in?" I am fully persuaded that horse-dealer thought I was going to try the confidence trick with him.

LONELINESS.

The writer is often assured by his town friends that the loneliness of his country life must be very trying.

I reply with perfect truth that I have never known what it is to feel lonely except in London. Some years ago one Sunday afternoon I was compelled to consult an eminent oculist. When the cab drove up to the great man's door in Cardross-square, his eminence was at the window in a brown study, with his elbows leaning on the wire blind, the tip of his nose flattened against the pane, his eyes vacantly staring at nothing. When we were shown into his presence, the forlorn and desolate expression on that forsaken man's face was quite shocking to the nerves. A painter who could have reproduced the look of aimless and despairing woe might have made a name for ever. When people talk to me of loneliness I always instinctively recall the image of that famous oculist in the heart of London on a Sunday afternoon. Ever since that day I have never been able to get over a horror of wire blinds. Happily, they are articles of furniture which have almost gone out now, but they used to be fearfully common. Even now the Londoner thinks it *de rigueur* to darken the windows of his sitting-room on the ground-floor; and in furnished lodgings you *must* have wire blinds. Why is this? When I ask the question I am told that you must have wire blinds; if you didn't, people would look in. In the country we never have wire blinds, and yet nobody looks in;

therefore you call our life lonely. But loneliness is not the simple product of external circumstances—it is the outcome of a morbid temperament, creating for itself a sense of vacuity, whatever may be a man's surroundings.

THE ARCADIAN INTELLECT.

Dr. Jessopp thinks no one who has not tried painfully to lift and lead others can have the least notion of the difficulty which the country parson has to contend with in the extreme thinness of the stratum in which the rural intellect moves.

Since the schools have given more attention to geography, and since emigration has brought us now and then some entertaining letters from those who have emigrated to "furren parts," the people have slowly learnt to think of a wider area of space than heretofore they could imagine. Though even now their notions of geography are almost as vague as their notions of astronomy; I have never seen a map in an agricultural labourer's cottage. But their absolute ignorance of history amounts to an incapacity of conceiving the reality of anything that may have happened in past time. What their grandfathers have told them, that is to them history—everything before that is not so much as fable; it is not romance, it is a formless void, it is chaos. The worst of it is that they have no curiosity about the past. The same is true of their knowledge of anything approaching the rudiments of physical science; it simply does not exist. A belief in the Ptolemaic system is universal in Arcady. I suspect that they think less about these things than they did. "That there old Gladstone, lawk! he's a deep un he is! He's as deep as the Pole Star he is!" said Solomon Bunch to me one day. "Pole Star?" I asked in surprise; "where is the Pole Star, Sol?" "Lawks! I dunno; I've heerd tell o' the Pole Star as the deep un ever sin' I was a boy!"

MORE EXPOSURE BY THE AUDITOR-GENERAL.

The revelations contained in the report of Sir William Dunbar as to the way in which the navy appropriation of the vote of credit of £11,000,000 was spent give an interest to the report by the Comptroller and Auditor-General on the army appropriation. Of the vote of £11,000,000, £4,000,000 was estimated to be required for army expenditure in the Sudan and Upper Egypt, and £4,000,000 for military special preparations. The total sum expended, which the vote of credit might have met, amounted to £6,111,131; but the total amount charged to the vote is £5,729,285. As in his report on the navy accounts, Sir William Dunbar complains that the Treasury was not presented with a general scheme of expenditure under the vote according to the instructions of a precise minute to that effect. He makes a remarkable statement with regard to that expenditure:—"It was observed that payments were made on the 29th of December, 1885, and the 27th of January, 1886, consequent upon claims authorized by orders given on the 9th of December and the 3rd of September, 1885, when the alarm of war was over, for the emplacements of the 43-ton guns in the forts at Portsmouth and Spithead. As provision for this work was made in previous Estimates, but was omitted in the ordinary Estimates, 1885-86, it was inquired why this service was charged to the vote of credit. The reply received appears to show that the vote of credit was considered available to hasten works the urgency for which was not connected with special preparations, and for which the ordinary Estimates of the year made no provision."

The appendix to the report contains some correspondence concerning the circumstances under which Lord Wolseley and the officers composing his staff drew the full pay and allowances of their appointments on the staff of the army in Egypt for two months after their return to this country in 1885. The article of the Army Warrant of 1884, which regulates such matters, lays down that staff pay may, at the discretion of the Secretary of State, be issued to a staff officer "during his temporary absence on duty," if no special pay be granted for such duty. But the absence of Lord Wolseley and his staff from the forces in Egypt was not temporary, seeing that it was consequent on the breaking up of the body of troops under his command. This being the case, the Auditor-General drew the attention of the War Office authorities to the matter. He pointed out that, according to the official "Army List" for October, 1885, Lord Wolseley's command of the forces in Egypt ceased on the 31st of July, 1885. To this communication the War Office replied that the dates mentioned in the Army List upon which the Auditor-General based this objection to the issue of staff pay to Lord Wolseley was incorrect, and would be amended in the forthcoming issue. As a matter of fact the "Army List" was correct, seeing that Lord Wolseley disembarked from Egypt in July, 1885; and the Auditor-General wrote to the Treasury pointing this out, and asking "whether the continuance of Lord Wolseley in command of the forces in Egypt, and of the appointments of his staff during two months after their arrival in this country, was made known to their lordships and received their approval." But the Lords of the Treasury would have nothing to say to the matter. It seemed to them "a matter of military administration." A week later Sir William Dunbar drew the attention of the Treasury to a surcharge for table allowance. An allowance at the rate of £1,000 per annum was sanctioned by the Treasury on the understanding that it merely covered Lord Wolseley's actual and necessary expenses of entertainment, and that it should cease on Lord Wolseley's return to this country. Lord Wolseley returned in July, but the allowance continued to be paid until the 7th of September. To this the Auditor-General took exception, and the Treasury admitted that Lord Wolseley had drawn money the payment of which had not been sanctioned. They "did not propose," however, "to disallow the payment made to Lord Wolseley." In his remarks on this correspondence, Sir William Dunbar says:—"As the Lords of the Treasury have approved of the course followed by the War Office in the case of these officers, the payments themselves are now financially regular; but I feel it my duty to record my opinion that the intention of an article in the royal warrant of 1884 was unduly strained in order to cover this expenditure."

Among what the Auditor-General disallows as an unauthorized and irregular charge to the vote is £176, the expenses of the Canadian *voyageurs* in visiting the Pyramids, and a sum of £232,926 claimed by the Egyptian Government for services in connection with the Nile expedition. These services are thus described:—"Egyptian army expenses in connection with Nile expedition, £210,553; telegraph services, £14,681; postal services, £7,692." The Auditor-General has requested the War Office to furnish explanation as to the grounds on which the Secretary of State certified to the claim of the Egyptian Government. No reply to this letter was received; consequently the claim is reported as "not properly chargeable to the vote."

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

THE MORNING PAPERS.

MR. HOWELL'S CHARGES AGAINST THE CORPORATION.

The *Times* does not take upon itself to assert that there is no foundation for the charges which Mr. Howell brought under the notice of the House of Commons. The City Corporation have not always spent money wisely or properly, and, considering the remarkable apathy of Londoners generally in regard to the proposals for the municipal reform of the metropolis, it may well be that the agitation, such as it was, against Sir William Harcourt's Bill was not altogether spontaneous. The same thing may probably be said of the agitation on the other side; but, no doubt, Mr. Gladstone was justified in insisting that a distinction exists between private associations organized for political objects and a public body administering municipal trusts. Whatever may be the merits of the case, can anybody pretend that it was a matter of urgent public importance? The alleged transactions of which Mr. Howell made complaint go back as far as May, 1884, and the foundation of the demand for the intervention of Parliament was not unfairly described by Sir Robert Fowler as "anonymous gossip." If it is possible to move the adjournment of the House on a question of urgent public importance whenever an imputation has been cast in a "society journal" on a public body or a public man, and to exact a parliamentary inquiry thereupon, the whole time of the House of Commons may be thus taken up from year's end to year's end.

The *Standard* notes as a matter rather significant than surprising that Mr. Caine went out of his way to protest against the notion that the proceedings of the Municipal Reform League should be brought within the scope of the inquiry. Are we to draw the inevitable inference that the conscience of the accusers is not clear?

The *Daily News* says that if the Committee of Inquiry has not power to call for documents and examine witnesses on oath, the investigation will be a farce; if it is given, we shall have some remarkable and perhaps decisive revelations as to the true character of the ancient municipal government of London.

The *Morning Post* admits that when allegations are made so precise and distinct, and affecting the character of what Mr. Gladstone rightly described as the greatest municipal corporation in the kingdom, they cannot be allowed to remain unanswered; but it is fairly open to question whether the present business of the House of Commons should have been interrupted and delayed by last evening's discussion. Abundant opportunity would have been afforded to Mr. Howell of preferring his charge against the London Corporation on the motion for going into Committee of Supply.

The *Morning Advertiser* observes that we have only heard one side of the story, and that, moreover, in the shape of mere vague and uncorroborated allegations. It would be grossly unfair to the Corporation to attach undue importance to a charge which rests, as the ex-Lord Mayor very well put it, "upon anonymous tittle-tattle, without names or particulars." On the other hand, since the subject has received parliamentary publicity, and been forced, moreover, upon the consideration of the House with so much circumstance, and such a parade of weighty proof forthcoming, it is necessary to sift it to the bottom.

MODERN LIBERALISM.

The *Newcastle Chronicle* says:—What a feeble flabby set of politicians our modern Liberals are, to be sure! We have them nervously waiting for a decision of their leaders before they can make up their minds. Mr. Gladstone a few months ago effected a transformation, and reversed the whole policy of his lifetime. He carried with him the bulk of his followers; but not all of them. The two are now trying to effect a reunion. The difference between them is not one of detail but of principle. Those who are clamouring for a wholesale pacification never seem to consider this. They are waiting for orders from either Mr. Gladstone or Mr. Chamberlain. Confound Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Chamberlain! Home Rule is either right or wrong, and the fact that one takes one side and the other the opposite ought not to affect the judgment of any intelligent person. It is the duty of every citizen to think the question out for himself, and to act upon his conclusion. If the electors are to blindly and without reflection follow their leaders they are not entitled to the franchise. Political power is only given to independent men who possess judgment and are capable of exercising it for the advantage of the nation. But if a large section of the Liberals are to surrender their opinions sheep-like to any individual, or coterie of individuals, they ought to be deprived of the suffrage, as they are not in a position to exercise it independently.

THE REVOLT AT SILISTRIA.

The *Standard* points out that this rebellion of the Silistria garrison has followed swiftly on the collapse of the negotiations that have for some time been carried on, by the mediation of the Sultan, between the Russian Agent, M. Zankoff, and the Bulgarian Delegates. There can be little doubt that the revolt is the answer of the Russian Government to the refusal of the Bulgarian delegates to bow to the will of the Czar. So long as the hope was cherished that Bulgaria might be browbeaten into a surrender of its independence, so long the agents of Russia were held in leash and prevented from disturbing the public peace. Now the leash has been removed, and they have been ordered to do their worst. Unless the outbreak at Silistria be promptly suppressed, all the fears expressed during the last few weeks concerning the precariousness of peace will be felt afresh in full force. Moreover, disturbances in Bulgaria mean restlessness in Serbia, restlessness in Montenegro, restlessness in Macedonia. Once let the Balkan Peninsula be the scene of a military conflagration, and it will be impossible to localize the flames.

The *Morning Post* remarks that it would be impossible to foretell the immediate consequences of an apparently insignificant incident. If Russia has resolved to occupy Bulgaria the slightest pretext may be used to justify her action. A few shots exchanged between the loyal and disaffected troops might be magnified to the proportions of civil war, and, to spare civilization the horrors of further bloodshed between people of the same race and nationality, the necessity for Russian intervention to re-establish order would be announced.

POST OFFICE PATRONAGE.

The *Daily News* will not let Mr. Raikes escape with his very meagre and unsatisfactory answer yesterday to the charges brought against him, or rather against his administration of the Department. Either in Committee on the Supplementary Civil Service Estimates, or at some more convenient opportunity, Mr. Raikes must be called to account where he can reply with perfect fulness, and where his defence can be thoroughly sifted before the proper constitutional tribunal. The relations between Mr. Raikes and the permanent heads of the Post Office, men of long experience and great ability, are said to have reached a point where the disorganization of the postal service is menaced. Unless Parliament interferes, the public interests will be sacrificed to a quarrel for which Mr. Raikes may conceivably not be responsible, but which was certainly avoided by his predecessors in office. If it be true that discipline is impaired by the arbitrary conduct of Mr. Raikes, who capriciously overrules the judgment of the secretary, the case is obviously urgent. If there is no possibility of discussing it in Committee of Supply an opportunity should be made.

TRADE AND FINANCE.

The receipts into the Exchequer for the current financial year up to Saturday night last were £80,879,151, just £1,778,837 more than for the corresponding period of last year. During last week the collections amounted to £2,403,283. The expenditure up to last Saturday night was £78,968,858, nearly two millions less than for the corresponding period last year. During the week the expenditure was £1,302,793. Customs up to Saturday night show an increase on last year of £288,000; stamps an increase of £160,000; and income tax an increase of £1,456,000. But Excise shows a decrease of £265,000.

The collection of the revenue by transferring cash from the outside market to the Bank of England is forcing up the value of money. Yesterday the discount houses raised the rates they allow on deposits $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., to 3 per cent. for money at call and $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. for money at notice. The discount quotation was $3\frac{1}{2}$ to $3\frac{3}{4}$ per cent., and the rates for short loans ranged from $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 per cent. The Bank of England again did a large business. The supply of loanable capital in the outside market is for the moment very short in consequence of the accumulation of the proceeds of the taxes in the Bank of England, and the supply will tend to grow shorter till about the middle of the month. Then the disbursements from the Exchequer will begin to grow large, and little later the payment of salaries will so increase the outgoings that the expenditure will probably exceed the receipts. For the present, however, and most likely for at least a fortnight yet, the ingoings are larger considerably than the outgoings, and consequently give the Bank of England control of the market. One result of this is that gold continues to flow in, though in small amounts. Yesterday there was sent in £21,000.

The stagnation on the Stock Exchange was, if possible, greater than ever yesterday. In the early part of the day the Berlin Bourse was weak, and the whole Foreign department was in consequence depressed. The reported revolt in Silistria increased the depression. The Berlin speculators naturally take advantage of the cessation of alarmist rumours to sell some of the mass of securities they have been carrying. Yesterday, apparently, they tried to get rid of Egyptian Unified Bonds, as having the largest market and being the least likely to suffer from the outbreak of war, and Unified consequently gave way. The Berlin Bourse, however, subsequently improved, and towards the close there was a rally. While markets are in their present state very small operations have a great effect upon quotations. The public is not dealing, neither are the professional speculators. Jobbers, therefore, are very unwilling to buy or to sell, for they have little chance of either getting stock or disposing of it, as the case may be. Consequently, they put up or put down prices rapidly when even a small amount of business is done. Considerable changes in quotations, then, do not mean just now active business, but only jobbers' efforts to protect themselves. The Foreign department for the time being gives the lead to the other markets, and these latter were yesterday utterly lifeless.

The success which is attending the efforts of the Mysore Gold Mining Company seems likely to have an important bearing on the industrial progress of Southern India. The Mysore is the only one out of the numerous companies started seven years ago which has continued its shafts below the old workings; and the fact that the richest quartz is found at the greatest depth will be an encouragement to neighbouring companies to continue their operations as vigorously as possible, with the hope of getting similar results. The Mysore Company made a small return in 1884—365 oz. of gold from 408 tons of quartz, realizing £1,440; but it was not until late in 1885 that it began to make regular returns. For the year ending September, 1885, 1,663 tons of quartz were crushed, yielding 3,847 oz. of gold, of the value of £15,360, and for the year ending September last 6,083 tons were crushed, yielding 15,781 oz. of gold, realizing £62,000. The expectation is that for the current year the returns will be very largely increased, for at the present time only one-fourth of the men employed are engaged in extracting quartz; the other three-fourths being occupied with purely exploratory works, having for their object the laying open of the mine for future working. But, even allowing for the heavy cost of this "dead work," as miners term it, the returns made are more than half net profit; for while the gross receipts amounted to £61,963, the net profit was £33,819. The Mysore property extends for considerably over a mile, and at various points extending over a length of 5,000 ft. the quartz has been found to be highly auriferous. The progress made in the neighbouring properties has been much slower than in the Mysore; but in one of them, the Nundydoo, very rich quartz is being found, and as the Ooregum mine divides the Mysore from the Nundydoo property, there is reason to believe that there also success will be achieved. It is curious to notice that the Wynaad district, about the value of which as a goldfield the late Mr. Brough Smith reported to the Indian Government in such sanguine terms in 1878, has so far proved commercially unsuccessful; though the Phoenix Mine of the Indian Consolidated Company has lately been making some small returns of gold. In the Wynaad district the quartz seems to contain a much smaller percentage of gold than is the case in the neighbourhood of the Mysore Mine. It remains to be seen whether the companies mining in the Wynaad will have the courage to sink to a depth corresponding with the present workings in the Mysore Mine. It is to be remembered that native labour is so cheap and abundant in India that a comparatively small percentage of gold—probably half an ounce to the ton of quartz—will, under ordinary circumstances, pay all the expenses of working.

The report and accounts of the directors of the Alliance Assurance Company (Limited) for the year ended the 31st of December, 1886, show that the income for that period amounted to £177,503, the disbursements to £147,809, leaving a balance of £29,694. The life assurance fund at the close of the year amounted to £1,379,965, and the fire insurance £574,073. The balance to the credit of profit and loss account was £82,500. The directors recommend a dividend of 15 per cent. on the paid-up capital of £550,000 for the year 1887.

STOCKS AND SHARES.

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

COLONIAL GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.

Canada, Dominion of, 5p. ct. 1903	112	114
Ditto, ditto 4 p. cent. 1904-5-6-7	103½	104½
Cape of Good Hope 1890-1900	—	—
Ditto 1891	—	—
Ditto 5 per cent. 1900	107	109
Ditto 4½ per cent.	102	104
Ditto ditto (June & Dec.)	101	103
Natal 4½ per cent. (Mar. & Sept.)	101	103
Ditto 5 per cent., 1900-1901	104	106
New South Wales, 1888 to 1894	105	114
Ditto 5 per cent. 1895 to 1902	105	107
Ditto 2 per cent. 1892 to 1893	105	107
New Zealand 6 per cent. 1891	106	108
Ditto 5 per cent. 1914	112	114
Ditto 5 per cent. Consols	102	104
Ditto 6 p. cent., March 15, 1891	107	109
Ditto ditto (June & Dec.)	106	108
Ditto 4½ p. cent. 5-30, 1879-190	—	—
Ditto ditto 10-40, 1888-1912	100	101
Ditto ditto 1889	101	103
Quebec (Province of) 5 p. c. 1904	108	110
Ditto ditto 1906	108	110
Queensland 6 per cent. 1891-1896	106	118
Ditto 4 per cent. 1913-1915	—	—
South Australia 6 p. c. 1891-1902	115	130
Ditto ditto 1901-1902	106	116
Ditto 5 per cent. 1911-1920	100	102
Ditto 4 per cent. 1929	100	102
Ditto ditto 1916	100	102
Straits Settlements Gov. 4½ p. c.	103	105
Tasmanian 6 per cent. 1895	110	115
Ditto 4 per cent. 1 July, 1908	106	108
Victoria 6 per cent. 1891	105	107
Ditto 5 per cent. 1894	105	107
Ditto 4 per cent. 1899-1901	101	103
Western Australian 4½ per cent.	105	107
Ditto ditto 4 per cent.	101	103

REGISTERED AND INSCRIBED STOCKS.

Canada 4 p. c. Stock Reg., 1904	104	105
Do. Loan for £4,000,000, 1910	103½	104½
C. of Good Hope 4 p. c. Stock Reg.	98½	99½
Do. (Loan of 1883) Ins.	99½	100½
Ceylon 4 p. c. Inscribed Stock	102	104
Natal 4 p. c. Consol. Stock Reg.	96½	97½
New South Wales 4 p. c. Ins.	106½	107½
Do. 3½ per cent. Stock Ins.	94	95
Do. 3½ do. Stock, 1883	—	—
Queensland Stock Ins.	99	100
S. Australia (Loans of 1882-3-4)	100½	101½
Victoria 4 p. cent. Railway Loan	102½	103½
1881, Inscribed Stock	102½	103½
Victoria 4 p. cent. Loans of 1882,	104	105
1883, and 1884, do. 1908	104	105
W. Australia Loan of £525,000 Stk.	103½	104½

AMERICAN SECURITIES.

Massachusetts 5 per cent. 1888	101	103
Atlantic First Leased Lines Rental	—	—
Trust	75	77
Baltimore & Potomac 1st M'n. Line	124	126
Central Pacific of California Six	—	—
per Cent. First Mortgage	116	118
Delaware and Hudson Canal	—	—
Mortgage Bonds, 1894	112	117
Denver & Rio Grande 1st Con. M.B.	80	82
Lehigh Valley Con. Mortgage	131	135
New York Central and Hudson	—	—
River Seven per Cent. Mort.	133	138
New York, Pennsylvania and	—	—
Ohio Third Mortgage	4½	5½
Norfolk and Western Preferred	49	50
St. Louis Bridge 1st Pref. Stock	104	106
Ditto 2nd Preferred Stock	52	54
Do. 1st Mortgage Gold Bonds	133	138
Union Pacific Railway 1st Mort.	116	118
Union Pacific Land Grant	100	105

STERLING BONDS.

Allegheny Valley, 1910	132	134
Atlantic First Leased Lines Rental	—	—
Trust, 4 per cent. Mt. Debs	84	86
Baltimore and Ohio 6 per c., 1902	118	120
Ditto 6 per cent. 1910	124	126
Ditto 5 per cent. 1877	111	113
Memphis and Ohio	116	119
N.V.C. & Hudson River 6 p. cent.	119	121
Pennsylvania General Mortgage	126	129
Ditto Consolidated ditto	119	121
Pittsburg & Connellsville 6 per c.	128	130
Union Pacific Rail. Omaha Bridge	123	128
United N. Jersey Ry. Canal 1894	107	109

RAILWAYS.—BRITISH POSSESSIONS.

Atlantic and St. Lawrence 6 p. c.	139	141
Bombay, Baroda, & Central India	—	—
guaranteed 5 per cent.	150	163
Buffalo and Lake Huron	11½	12
Canada Central Five per Cent.	—	—
First Mortgage Bonds	108	110
Can. Pac. Stl. 5 p. c. First Mort.	105	106
Chicago and Grand Trunk 6 p. c.	106	108
Demerara 7 p. c. Perpetual Pref.	138	142
Eastern Bengal 4 p. c. Guar. Deb. St.	116	118
East Indian, Annuity A	22½	23
Ditto Annuity B, 4½ per annum	24½	25
Ditto Def. Annuity Cap. Guar.	—	—
4 per cent.	116	119
Do. Irredeem. Deb. Stk. 4½ p. c.	119	121
Great Indian Peninsula Guarant.	144	147
teed Five per Cent.	107	109
Do. 4 per Cent. Deb. Stock	106	108
Hamilton & N. W. 1st M. 6 p. c.	106	108
Madras guaranteed 5 per cent.	125	127
Ditto ditto 4½ per cent.	118	122
Ditto ditto 4½ per cent.	112	116
Melbourne and Hobson's Bay	—	—
United 5 per cent. Bonds	107	109
M. of Canada Sterling 1st Mort.	—	—
gage	100	102
Do. (Con.) 5 per cent. 1st Mort.	98	100
Nizam's State Railway Guarant.	106	108
teed 5 per cent. Shares	55	60
N. of Canada 6 p. c. Pref. Stock	104	106
Ditto 5 per cent. 1st Mort. A and B	94	96
Ditto 3rd Pref. Bonds A and B	104	106
Ditto North. Exten. 6 p. c.	104	106
Ditto ditto 6 p. c. Impr. Mort.	82	84
Ditto 4 per cent. Deb. Stock	109	110
Ont. & Quebec 6 p. c. Perp. Deb. St.	109	110
Oude & Rohilkund 5 p. cent.	125	127
Ditto 4 per cent. Deb. Stock	105	108
St. John and Maine	30	33
Scinde, Punjab, & Delhi 5 p. c.	125	127
South Indian guar. 5 per cent.	125	127
Ditto 4½ per cent. Deb. Stock	114	116
S. Mahratta Guar. 4 p. c. till 1889	102	103
Ditto 4 per cent. Deb. Stock	105	107
Tasmanian Main Line Debenture	—	—
4 per cent. Stock	83	86
Toronto, Grey, and Bruce 4 per	—	—
cent. 1st Mortgage	84	85
Wellington, Grey, and Bruce 7	—	—
per cent. Bonds, 1st Mortgage	98	100

BRITISH RAILWAYS.

East London Consolidated	9	11
Furness Consolidated	102	105
Glasgow and South-Western Con.	101	103
Hull, Barnsley, and West Riding	—	—
Junction Shares	17½	18½
London, Tilbury, & Southend Co.	135	139
Mersey	6	8
North London Consolidated	175	180
Rhymney	150	160

RAILWAYS.—DEBENTURE STOCK.

Caledonian 4 per cent.	116	118
East London 6 per cent.	140	150
Ditto 5 per cent.	110	120
Ditto 6 per cent. 1874	90	110
Ditto 6 per cent. 1875	60	90
Glasgow and S. West. 4 per cent	114	116
Great Eastern 4 per cent.	116	118
Ditto A 5 per cent.	142	144
Ditto B 67 redm., 5 p. c.	132	144
Ditto 4½ per cent.	129	131
Ditto East Anglian 4 p. c.	115	117
Great Northern 4 per cent.	118	120
Ditto 4½ per cent.	122	124
Ditto 4½ per cent.	131	133
Ditto 5 per cent.	145	147
Lancashire and York, 4 per cent	117	119
London & Blackwall, 4½ per cent	120	122
London and Brighton, 4 per cent.	115	117
Ditto Perpetual 4½ per cent.	129	131
London & Chatham Arb. ½ p. c.	124	126
Ditto ditto B 4½ per cent.	123	125
Ditto ditto 4 per cent.	108	110
Ditto ditto 1883	108	110
London & North-Western 4 p. c.	119	121
London & South-Western 4 p. c.	118	120
Ditto ditto B 4 p. c.	118	120
Ditto ditto 3½ p. c.	102	104
London, Tilbury 4 per cent.	114	116
Manch. & Sheffield 4½ per cent.	128	130
Metropolitan 4 per cent.	115	117
Ditto 4½ per cent.	120	123
Ditto 3½ per cent.	98	100
Metropolitan District 6 per cent	157	160
Ditto 4 per cent	106	108
Midland 4 per cent	118	120
North British 4 per cent.	115	117
Do. E. P. and D. B. 5 per cent	—	—
North-Eastern 4 per cent.	118	120
Ditto 4½ per cent.	131	133
North London 4½ per cent.	131	133
North Staffordshire 4½ p. cent.	131	133
South-Eastern Perp. 4 per cent.	117	119
Ditto ditto 5 per cent.	142	144
Taff Vale 4 per cent.	110	113

FOREIGN RAILWAYS.

Antwerp and Rotterdam	21	23
Bahia and San Francisco, g. 7 p. c.	22½	23½
Brazilian Imperial Central Bahia	21½	22
Ditto 6 p. cent. Debenture Stock	111	113
Buenos Ayres Great Southern	159	161
Ditto Extension	14½	14½
Ditto 5 p. cent. Debenture Stock	119	121
Buenos Ayres and Ensenada Port	8	9
Ditto 8 p. cent. Preference	13½	14½
Ditto 5 p. cent. Deb. Stock	108	110
Buenos Ayres and Pacific Pref.	23½	24½
Ditto ditto and Rosario Ord.	138	141
Ditto ditto 7 p. c. Pref.	14½	14½
Central Argentine 5 p. c. Deb. Stock	113	115
Ditto 6 per cent. Limited	108	110
C. Uruguay of Montevideo, Lim	11	11½
Do. Permt. 6 p. c. Deb. Stock	128	130
Conde d'Eu, Lim., g. 7 per cent	15	16
Copapo	38	42
Dutch Rhenish	16½	17½
Ditto New	4	6
Ditto ditto 1872	½	1
East Argentine, Lim., g. 7 per cent	98	100
Ditto 6 per cent. Deb. Stock	112	114
Great Western of Brazil, g. 7 p. c.	19	20
Ditto 6 per cent. Deb. Stock	112	114
Imp. Brazilian, Natal, and N. Cruz	—	—
Lima, Limited	6½	8
Namur and Liège 14½ per annum	11½	12½
Ditto 6 per Cent. Preference	25	28
N.-W. Uruguay 6 p. c. 1st Pref	67	69
Ottoman, ditto, 5 per cent. and Pref	46	48
Prov. Orei-Vitebsk g. 5 per cent.	12½	13
Recife and Sao Francisco g.	17	18
Riga and Danaberg	103	105
Royal Sardinian	14½	15½
Ditto Preference	10	10½
Royal Swedish	10½	11½
Ditto Preference	3½	3½
Sambre and Meuse	9½	10½
Ditto 5½ per Cent. Preference	11½	12½
San Paulo Brazilian guar. 7½	40½	41½
Ditto 5½ p. c. Debenture Stock	130	132
Smyrna and Cassaba, Limited	20½	23½
Ditto 7 per Cent. Preference	25½	26½
Southern Brazilian Rio Grande	—	—
Do Sul Guaranteed 7 per cent	21½	22½
Varna	2½	3½
West Flanders	10½	11½
Ditto 5½ per cent. Preference	11½	12½
West. of Buenos Ayres 6 p. c. Bds	110	112
Do. do. 5 p. c. Mort. Deb.	99½	100½

LAND COMPANIES.

Canada Company	84	87
Canada North-West Land	2½	2½
Natal Land and Colonization	4½	5
Newfoundland Land	1½	2
Otago and Southland Investment	83	85
Peel River Land	195	205
Scottish Australian Investment	60	63
South Australian	2½	2½
S. Austrin. Land Mort. & Agency	24	26
Van Diemen's Land	—	—

TELEGRAPH SHARES.

Anglo-American Preferred	52	53
Ditto Deferred	11	12
Cuba, Limited	11½	11½
Ditto 10 per cent. Preference	18	19
Eastern 4 per cent. Debent. Stock	101	103
Eastern Exten. 6 per cent. Debent.	104	107
Great Northern of Copenhagen	13½	13½
Indo-European, Limited	34½	35½
London P. Brazilian, 6 p. c. Deb.	99	102
Reuter's, Limited	6½	7½
Submarine	195	195
Ditto Scrip	—	—
West India and Panama 1st Pref.	8½	9
Western Union of U.S. 1st M. Bonds	123	127

BANKS.

Agra, Limited	—	—
Alliance, Limited	—	—
Anglo-Austrian	—	—
Anglo-Californian, Limited	—	—
Anglo-Foreign Banking, Limited	—	—
Anglo-Italian, 1866, Limited	—	—
Bank of Africa, Limited	—	—
Bank of Australasia	—	—
Bank of British Columbia	—	—
Ditto New Issue at a prem.	—	—
Bank of British North America	—	—
Bank of Constantinople	—	—
Bank of Egypt	—	—
Bank of New South Wales	—	—
Bank of New Zealand	—	—
Bank of Roumania	—	—
Bank of South Australia	—	—
Bank of Victoria	—	—
Central of London, Limited	—	—
Chart. of India, Aust., and China	—	—
Chart. Mer. of Ind., Lon., & China	—	—
Com. Bank of Australia, Lim.	—	—
Delhi and London, Limited	—	—
English Bank of Rio de Jan., Lim	—	—
English Bank of River Plate, Lim.	—	—
Eng., Scottish, and Aust. Chart	—	—
Franco-Egyptian, issued at 5 pm.	—	—
German Bank of London, Lim.	—	—
Hong Kong & Shanghai Bk. Corp.	—	—
Imperial, Limited	—	—
International Bank of Lond. Lim.	—	—
Ionian	—	—
Lloyds, Barnetts, & Bosanquet, L.	—	—
London and Brazilian, Limited	—	—
London and Hanseatic, Limited	—	—
London and Provincial, Limited	—	—
London and River Plate, Limited	—	—
London and San Francisco, Lim.	—	—
London and South-Western, Lim	—	—
London Bank of Mexico & South	—	—
America, Limited	—	—
London Chartered of Australia	—	—
London, Paris, and Am. Bank, L.	—	—
Mercantile Bank of River Plate, L.	—	—
Merchant, Limited	—	—
National, Limited	—	—
National Bank of Australasia	—	—
Nat. Bank of New Zealand, L.	—	—
North-Eastern, Limited	—	—
Provincial of Ireland, Limited	—	—
Queensland National, Limited	—	—
Standard of South Africa, Ltd.	—	—
Union of Australia, Limited	—	—
Union of Spain and England, L	—	—

GAS COMPANIES.

Commercial, New Stock	205	210
Continental Union Limited	38	40
European, Limited	21½	22½
Gas Light and Coke A, Ordinary	226	230
Imperial Continental	205	209
South Metropolitan A	297	302

CORPORATION STOCKS.

UNITED KINGDOM.		
Met. B. of Works 3 p. c. Stock ..	98½	98½
Com. of Sewers City London Scrip	100	101
Corp. of London Bonds, 1886-88	99½	100½
Ditto ditto 1891-95	100	101
Ditto 3 p. c. Bonds, 1912	96	98
Birmingham Corp. Stock, 1945	102½	103
Eristol Corp. Deb. 3½ p. c. Stock	100½	101½
Cardiff Corporation 3½ per cent.	97	97½
Glasgow Corporation 3½ per cent.	—	—
Hull Corporation Stock	100	101
Leeds. Corp. 4 p. c. Deb. Stock	111	112
Liverpool Corp. 3½ p. c. Stock ..	103½	103½
Manchester Corp. 4 per cent ..	110½	117½
Middlesbrough Corpora. 4½ p. c.	103	105
Newcastle Corp. 3½ per cent. ..	100	102
Nottingham Corp. Stock, 3 p. c.	87	87½
Stockton Corp. 4½ p. c. Mort. 1890	103	105
Wolverhampton Corp. 3½ p. c. Sck	97½	98½

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