

THE ST. JAMES'S GAZETTE

An Evening Review and Record of News.

No. 2108.—VOL. XIV.

TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 1887.

PRICE ONE PENNY.

CONTENTS.	
LEADING ARTICLES:—	PAGE
IRELAND TO-DAY, AND TO-MORROW	3
SIR HENRY WOLFF'S MISSION	3
OCCASIONAL NOTES	4
MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES:—	
A NEW ART	6
THE HOTCHKISS GUNS	6
DOING OUR BUSINESS	7
A TYPICAL LYNCHING CASE	13
THE UNIVERSITY CREWS	13
CORRESPONDENCE:—	
THE ROMANCE OF HORROR	5
LITERATURE:—	
BUDDHISM IN CHRISTENDOM	7
THE EVENING NEWS	8-12
LATEST TELEGRAMS	8
THE MONEY MARKET	9
TRADE AND FINANCE	13
THE MORNING PAPERS	14
BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS	14

COVENT GARDEN.
ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA,
COVENT GARDEN.
Mr. MAPLESON has the honour to announce that the OPERA SEASON will commence on SATURDAY NEXT, March 12, on which occasion will be performed Verdi's Opera LA TRAVIATA. Alfredo, Signor Runcio; Germont, Signor del Puente; Il Barone, Signor Ciampi; Marchesi, Signor Bieleto; Gastone, Signor Rinaldini; Annina, Mdle. Bauermeister; Flora Bervoix, Mdme. Lablache; and Violetta Valery, Mdle. Lilian Nordica. Prior to the opera the National Anthem will be sung. Conductor, Signor Vianesi. The nightly prices of admission will be as follows: Private boxes on pit and grand tiers, £4.4s.; first tier, £2.2s.; second tier, £1.1s.; orchestra stalls (reserved), 1s. 6d.; grand circle (reserved), 7s. 6d.; pit stalls (reserved), 5s.; balcony stalls (reserved), 5s.; amphitheatre stalls (first three rows reserved), 3s.; amphitheatre stalls (unreserved), 2s. 6d.; gallery, 1s.—The doors will be open at 7.30, and the opera commence at eight precisely each evening. Box-office now open.

DRURY LANE.
DRURY LANE.—AUGUSTUS HARRIS, Lessee and Manager.
EVERY EVENING, at 7.25; Morning Performance EVERY MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, and SATURDAY, at 1.25, THE FORTY THIEVES. The best Pantomime ever produced at Drury Lane, the finest spectacle ever seen, and played by the best and funniest company ever gathered together. 17th Performance.

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 (49th time). Mr. William Terriss, Messrs. Beveridge, Garden, Maclean, Lyndal, Boleyn, Russell, Wentworth, Travers, &c.; Messdames 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. Robertson, James Fernandez, Forbes-Dawson, Tapping, Sydney Brough, and Lionel Brough; Messdames John Billington, Julia Gwynne, Meyer, Susan Vaughan, and Miss Kate Vaughan. Preceded, at 7.45, by A MERRY MEETING. SATURDAY NEXT, THE SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL.—OPERA COMIQUE THEATRE. Manager, F. J. Harris.

GLOBE THEATRE.—Will RE-OPEN ON MONDAY NEXT, with a Farical Comedy entitled THE SNOWBALL, by Sydney Grundy, preceded at 8 o'clock with a Comedietta, AFTER MANY DAYS; to conclude with CRAZED. Messrs. C. H. Hawtrej, Wilfred Draycott, W. Lestocq, Norman Bent, Stewart Dawson, and W. J. Hill; Misses Vane Featherstone, Blanche Horlock, Florence Haydon, and Miss Fanny Brough, &c. Box Office now open.

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

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.
ALICE IN WONDERLAND.—MR. EDGAR BRUCE'S MATINEES.
TO-DAY and following days, at 2.30, until further notice, a Musical Dream-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, 5s. 6d.; balcony stalls, 4s.; and first circle, 2s.

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.

GAITY.
GAITY 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; Messdames J. Findlay, Jessie Bond, Lindsay, and R. Brangham. 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. LAST NIGHTS OF Mr. Henry Arthur Jones's play, HARD HIT, at 8. Mr. E. S. Willard, Mr. Arthur Dacre, Mr. H. Kemble, Mr. Frank Archer, Mr. P. Ben Greet, Mr. C. Dodsworth, Mr. U. Winter, Mr. Compton Courts, Mr. Fenton, Mr. Ferrand, and Mr. H. Beerbohm-Tree; Miss Mary Rorke, Miss Lydia Cowell, and Miss Marion Terry. Booking-office open daily ten to five.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Managers, Mr. HARR and Mr. KENDAL. THIS EVENING, at 8, will be acted LADY CLANCARTY, Drama in Four Acts, written by the late Tom Taylor. The principal characters will be acted by Mr. Kendal, Messrs. Waring, Mackintosh, Cathcart, Bedford, Bauer, Mr. De Verney, B. Webster, Hendrie, Gould, Powell, Sims; Mrs. Gaston Murray, Mrs. B. Tree, Miss Huntley, and Mrs. Kendal. Doors open at 7.30; Box Office 10 to 5. No fees.

VAUDEVILLE.
VAUDEVILLE.—THIS EVENING, at 8.30, SOPHIA (52nd time), by Robert Buchanan. Messrs. THOMAS THORNE, Carleton, Thorne, Farquhar, Mellish, Grove, Wheatman, and LEONARD BOYNE; Messdames Larkin, Leclercq, Venn, Forsyth, and K. Rorke. At 7.45, NEARLY SEVERED. MATINEE every SATURDAY, at 2.30.

OLYMPIC.
OLYMPIC.—MR. EDWARD TERRY'S SEASON.—At 8.15, THE CHURCHWARDEN; at 8.30, THE TWO BLINDS; at 8.45, HOME RULE. Last Nights, owing to expiry of lease, MATINEE at 2.30 every SATURDAY.—Acting Manager, Mr. H. T. Brickwell.

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

CRITERION.
CRITERION THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. CHARLES WYNDHAM. At 8, DAVID GARRICK. Mr. CHARLES WYNDHAM; Messrs. G. Giddens, W. Blakeley, and David James; Messdames Rose Saker, F. Paget, E. Miller, and Mary Moore. Preceded by, at 8, "WHO KILLED COCK ROBIN?" Doors open at 7.30. N.B.—MATINEE OF DAVID GARRICK 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, Ashford, Miss Camille d'Arville, Mdme. Amadi, Miss Kate Lawler, 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, by A. W. Pinero, at 8.30. 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. At 8.10, THE NETTLE. Miss Cudmore, Mr. Kerr. Box-office open till 5. No fees.

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

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FREEHOLD GROUND.—CITY OF LONDON.

The Commissioners of Sewers of the City of London will meet in the GUILDHALL of the said City on TUESDAY, the 5th of April, 1887, at Half-past Twelve o'clock precisely, to RECEIVE TENDERS for the purchase of a very valuable Freehold Building Site, situate at the corner of Bream's-buildings, Fetter-lane, and possessing a frontage to Bream's-buildings of about 90ft., as per plans and particulars to be obtained at the office of the Engineer to the Commissioners, in the Guildhall.

Tenders must be sealed, endorsed outside "Tender for Ground, Bream's Buildings," and be addressed to the undersigned at this office, and must be delivered before 12 o'clock on the said day of treaty. The Commissioners do not bind themselves to accept the highest or any tender. Parties sending in proposals must attend personally or by a duly authorized agent at Half-past Twelve o'clock on the said day, and be then prepared (if their Tender be accepted) to pay the required deposit of 10 per cent. on the purchase-money and to execute an agreement for the completion of the purchase agreeably to the conditions of sale. HENRY BLAKE, Principal Clerk. Sewers' Office, Guildhall, February, 1887.

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CHIMBORAZO ..	3,847	3,000	May 12.
POTOSI	4,267	3,500	May 16.
ORIENT	5,386	6,000	June 9.
GARONNE	3,876	3,000	June 23.

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£51 will do the same for Six Boys; £102 for Twelve Boys; or £170 for Twenty Boys. Who, by promising one or other of these amounts, will help to give some of these young fellows a start in life?

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THE ST. JAMES'S GAZETTE.

TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 1887.

IRELAND TO-DAY, AND TO-MORROW.

THE reports of "Liberal reunion" which have been recently circulated are, no doubt, considerably exaggerated. The published utterances of Sir GEORGE TREVELYAN, however, are enough to justify an unusual elation among the Gladstonians and a feeling of uneasiness among the friends of the Union. Sir GEORGE TREVELYAN is rightly held to be an honest politician; and if he is not a very strong one, there are likely to be other Unionists who are no stronger. The fact, therefore, that Sir GEORGE TREVELYAN has found what appears to him sufficient reason for abandoning the ground which he took up a year ago serves to illustrate the state of mind of a certain class of politicians, and is not unlikely to have some force as an example. What is the feeling to which Sir GEORGE has given expression? It can be stated in a very few words. The impossibility of governing Ireland under the present system has been proved; law cannot be enforced nor order preserved: therefore we must concede the demands of Mr. PARNELL, or whatever part of them he will condescend to consider sufficient. A very large proportion of Gladstonians, from Lord SPENCER downwards, accepted Home Rule against their own convictions on this very ground. It was inevitable that continued disorder in Ireland should swell the number of Home Rulers to some extent, and the attitude of Sir GEORGE TREVELYAN is an important reminder of the fact that it is doing so. The hopes of the Gladstonians are based solely on the prevalence of crime and disorder in Ireland. They point with delight to breaches of the law, to outrages, conspiracies, and midnight raids. These things are sure to bring in converts to the cause of Home Rule. Thus and thus only can it be proved that "firm government" is an impracticable alternative, and that "the game of law and order is up."

Naturally, the Irish party are not slow to recognize the service which is done to their cause by the spread of lawlessness and disorder. They see Sir GEORGE TREVELYAN wavering; they are told that the Round Table Conference has "agreed upon the main principle of Mr. GLADSTONE'S Home Rule Bill;" they indulge their imaginations with the picture of the gradual dissolution of the solid barrier of a hundred votes which at present stands between them and the accomplishment of their desires; and they also see the cause which has produced the effect. Robbery, murder, perjury in the jury-box, and the spread of boycotting have frightened English politicians out of the belief that Ireland can be firmly and resolutely governed. Some surprise might perhaps be felt at the fact that the impunity of crime should be considered by responsible statesmen as a ground for upsetting and not for strengthening the Government; but the capacity of the Parnellites for surprise at the conduct of Englishmen was probably exhausted by Mr. GLADSTONE'S acceptance of Home Rule. Anyhow, the course of the Parnellites was clear. Since outrages and disorder were doing such useful work, outrages and disorder must be multiplied and extended. The National League contains plenty of men who are old hands at this work. In the absence of "coercive" legislation, the horrors which preceded Mr. FORSTER'S Coercion Bill could easily be renewed. Accordingly, we have had the recrudescence of outrage which has attracted so much notice during the last few weeks. There have been two peculiarly horrible murders. Midnight visitations have been frequent. Intimidation and boycotting are practised on the widest scale. We have heard of numerous incendiary fires breaking out over a very large area on the same night. Bodies of armed men have resisted the police; in some cases they have driven them back, in one they are said to have taken them prisoners. Rape has been added to wounding and murder as a means of promoting the Nationalist cause. And now we hear, on high authority, that resistance to law on a yet larger scale is threatened. Talk of a threatened "rising" is heard more plainly than at any previous period of the agitation. Notorious "Invincibles" are said to be returning from America to Ireland. The present epoch of outrages began about the time of the return of the ex-Fenian DAVITT from a tour in the United States; and it appears as if it was to culminate with a general influx of the heroes of 1867 and 1882. The friends of peace and order in Ireland had never greater cause for disquiet than now. And why? Because it has been clearly proved to the most powerful organization in Ireland that breaches of the peace and breaches of order are the best arguments to change Unionists into Home Rulers. If the existing impunity of crime has converted Sir GEORGE TREVELYAN, who may not be converted by a general spread of open anarchy? If the police can be disheartened, disorganized, and rendered impotent; if criminals can be certain not only of impunity but of absolute safety from arrest; if Ireland can be proved to be suffering from every evil which Governments were devised to prevent; who can doubt that

the impossibility of governing Ireland under the present system has been proved? That is the argument on which Mr. PARNELL and his followers rely: and accordingly Mr. O'BRIEN yesterday preached boycotting, persecution, the defiance of the law, and the use of personal violence, in an unusually bitter and malignant speech even for him.

In this state of things the Government ought to consider with the utmost care the question whether they are asking for enough assistance from Parliament in the duty of restoring order. They have to deal with an organization which has gained much, and hopes to gain more, by the spread of disorder, and which possesses unrivalled means for the promotion of crime and sedition. Is the extension of the summary jurisdiction of magistrates an adequate measure? Would a complete suspension of the jury system be an adequate measure? Can the Government do its duty without a suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act? Considerations of tactics and of party convenience must be laid on one side. The Government has to perform an elementary duty. It has to put an end to a state of disorder approaching rebellion: it has to protect the inhabitants of Ireland from the commission of crimes the increase of which is attributable to a cause that is still in full force. The Government, it is to be hoped, are by this time awake to the necessity of resolutely exercising such powers as they possess or may obtain. But for the moment they have another duty to perform—namely, to ask for such powers as will really enable them to grapple with the steady and progressive growth of Irish crime and disorder.

SIR HENRY WOLFF'S MISSION.

AFTER the discussion in the House of Commons last night on Sir Henry Wolff's mission, we may be sure that that mission will be brought to an end before long. Of course the Government had to defend it; it was impossible for them to do otherwise; though it is certain that they had no heart for the business. How should they, when they know that this mission was created for the purpose of providing a place of dignity and emolument for one of Lord Randolph Churchill's lieutenants? No such mission was thought of till the summer of 1885, when the late Chancellor of the Exchequer first came into office himself, and when his two great supporters in what was called the Fourth Party naturally looked to be provided for. One of them, Sir John Gorst, was made Solicitor-General. Some talk there was of putting Sir Henry Wolff into the Administration too, as an Under-Secretary; but this could not very well be managed. And so a few weeks after the formation of the Government it was found that an Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Sultan, who at the same time should be High Commissioner in Egypt, was a necessity; and Sir Henry Wolff was appointed to the place with a salary of £5,000 a year.

We have not the least hesitation in saying that a more obvious job, or a worse one, has never been perpetrated in this generation; and yet it was one which the Prime Minister is hardly to be blamed for, if he can be blamed at all. At the time, Lord Randolph Churchill was master to all intents and purposes. His great platform services to the party had placed him in such a position, when the Conservative Government of 1885 was formed, that he could make his own terms. It was enough for him to say that he could not join the Government unless this or that were conceded to him, and the question was practically settled. Here was a distinct case of *force majeure*; and at any rate most of us can see that to thwart the wilful Lord Randolph at that time would probably have led to consequences far more vexatious and costly than a needless expenditure of five or ten thousand pounds. For the presumption at that time was that the "mission" was really to be what it appeared to be: a temporary business like some others which had preceded it. Only two or three persons at the outside imagined that the mission was to go on from year to year, or that Sir Henry Wolff was to occupy himself with the very business which Sir Evelyn Baring is paid another £5,000 a year to look after, with another staff and other extra expenses. Yet this is what turns out to be the case. The "mission" has now lasted nineteen months, and in the nature of things must last some months longer; for though it is obvious that whatever negotiation with the Porte may now be going on could have been and should have been conducted by our Ambassador at Constantinople, yet now that it has been put into Sir Henry Wolff's hands he must be left to carry it through. But in order to justify his existence all this while, Sir Henry had to do something in Egypt. He could not be always negotiating with the Porte. And so Sir James Fergusson was able last night to say that Sir Henry had been extremely busy discussing various matters with the Khedive, Nubar, and Moukhtar; that he had made various inquiries; that he had written some valuable reports; that he had called attention to abuses, and so forth. No doubt. But what was Sir Evelyn Baring doing all the time? This was *his* business: this is what he was appointed to do and is paid to do. And what is more, all this and very much besides he did at the most arduous and troublesome time of the Soudan war, without the assistance of any High Commissioner. Nobody has said or can say that Sir Henry Wolff has

been doing nothing these nineteen months. The complaint is, that, in order to make a job and keep it going month after month, he has sometimes taken up the work of our Ambassador at Constantinople, and sometimes employed himself upon the business of our Agent at Cairo; while it cannot be pretended for a moment that either of those officials was too busy or too incompetent to do what the Envoy has been engaged upon, or less worthy of Ministerial confidences.

More might be said. It might be said with perfect truth, we believe, that it is a mistake just now to force negotiations for settling the future of Egypt—that it would have been better to have paid Sir Henry Wolff to do nothing for a while rather than allow him to make good his *raison d'être* by entering upon that most difficult matter at a time like this. However, we say no more about that at present. Here there may be matter of which we are insufficiently informed. But we see no good in blinking the facts so far as Sir Henry Wolff's appointment is concerned. And we should like to know what that tiger of retrenchment, Lord Randolph Churchill, has to say to it. For his appointment it was.

NOTES.

Archbishop Croke has found it necessary to recant. He now insists that his No-tax manifesto was not intended to bear the meaning which everybody put upon it. "It never entered into my head," he says, "to recommend a general uprising against the payment of taxes." He was only expressing his "individual opinion as to the relative value and reasonableness of a No-tax manifesto, if issued, compared with a No-rent manifesto." But it was merely an academic comparison. It was interesting to Archbishop Croke to consider which kind of revolt against law was the more "reasonable;" but his researches had no practical object whatever. In fact, this reverend ally of the men engaged in a vast conspiracy against order and property is all for "constitutional agitation alone." The information was necessary.

We have only to look at the Archbishop's previous letter to see that this explanation is quite inconsistent with it. What did he say? "Had a manifesto against paying taxes been issued at the time, I should certainly have supported it on principle. I am in precisely the same frame of mind just now. Our line of action as a people appears to me to be in this respect both suicidal and inconsistent. We pay taxes to a Government that uses them, not for the public good and in accordance with the declared wishes of the taxpayers, but in direct and deliberate opposition to them. We thus supply a stick to beat ourselves with." How long, he asks, is this to be tolerated? What is the meaning of this if it is not that the people of Ireland ought to "hold the taxes," as they hold the rent, under the auspices of Archbishop Croke's friends? The Archbishop is not explaining, but withdrawing. For this retraction he has doubtless strong reasons. Pressure has been put upon him, of course; possibly from Rome, or from honest Catholics in Great Britain, or more probably from the Nationalist leaders, who do not want the Plan of Campaign to be interfered with, for the present, by a still more attractive scheme of plunder.

With a majority of some thirty over all his foes, Prince Bismarck can survey his Parliament with calmness. There is no occasion for one of his Titanic outbursts. The Reichstag, for the present, is in a compliant and even submissive mood, and the handful of irreconcilables are powerless. The Chancellor's policy has been so far justified that the first reading of the Army Bill was passed yesterday almost without a debate. In a week it is thought that it will become law. So the German Government carries the measure the rejection of which, according to their great soldier, would have meant instant war. But do the statesmen of Berlin believe that the danger is over with the voting of the Septennate? General Bismarck's few words hardly bear this meaning. The War Minister asked the House to let bygones be bygones and look to the present situation, "the gravity of which no one could fail to see."

The Duke of Argyll emits a little of his vigorous logic at Mr. Gladstone's latest sophism. "I am not creating a difficulty," said our Home Rule statesman, "but only pointing it out. The finger-post does not make the road." Good. Then Mr. Gladstone is directing us on a path which is none of his making. Who did make it, then? There is only one answer. Mr. Parnell and the Irish conspiracy. And whither does the finger-post tell us that the road leads to? As the Duke of Argyll says, we can read upon its index, shining through the thinnest coating of recently applied paint, the words, "By Plunder to Disintegration." So speaks the Duke of Argyll—a Scotch Liberal, and once a follower of Mr. Gladstone.

Lord Ribblesdale did good service by bringing under notice in the House of Lords last night the state of horse-breeding and horse supply for military and industrial purposes in this country. Even in peace-times, as he pointed out, our requirements in the matter of horses are far above our resources, as shown by the fact that we have for many years past found it necessary to import large numbers of foreign horses; and

we should be totally unable to meet a demand for a rapid supply of horses such as may arise at any moment in the event of an outbreak of war. With regard to the length of time it takes to obtain foreign supplies, Lord Ribblesdale mentioned that in 1882 it had taken seventeen weeks to buy 1,700 horses in foreign markets. When these markets are closed to us the time it would take to procure even one horse from abroad is, of course, beyond the power of calculation. It is indeed difficult to over-estimate the importance of the subject; and on this account it will probably receive far less attention than it deserves. It must also be remembered that there are many estimable persons in this country who not only look upon war with abhorrence, but scout the very notion of its possibility, and view all preparations to meet such a contingency with the utmost disgust.

So far the bolt has not fallen upon the Bulgarian Regency. The executions of the conspirators have been taken more quietly for the moment in Russia than might have been expected. M. Katkoff, of course, is full of sympathy for the rebels. We read that these persons "did not desire bloodshed, but meant to await the moment when matters could have matured to such a degree that a manifestation would have sufficed to put an end to the abnormal state of things." By the abnormal state of things is meant the rule of a free people by the elected Governors, in whom they have the profoundest confidence. It is not surprising that the *Moscow Gazette* should talk like this; it is odd (and rather ominous) that some of the French papers should write in the same way.

There is another theatrical performance in progress in the Law Courts, and the public are privileged to hear a little more about the ways of young ladies who act in burlesque, and their business relations with their managers. It is more or less amusing to everybody, except other litigants who are kept waiting by it. The lawyers are asking for a new judge in the Chancery Division; but perhaps it might be even more necessary to appoint one specially charged with the hearing of theatrical cases. Then, when one of these interesting actions takes place, the public might be entertained by it for any desired length of time, and nobody would be the losers, except the next batch of managers and players anxious to "come on." When the judge of the Theatrical Court was slack he might take over a few of the newspaper libel actions.

On the too frequent occasions when a panic occurs at a place of entertainment through the criminal folly of some misguided joker the solitary gleam of consolation for the public is the thought of the heavy punishment awaiting the idiot who shall be caught in the act. It may be news to sane people to learn that the offence in question may be committed with practical impunity. Thomas Farmer was convicted yesterday of having on Saturday night turned out the passage gas while 900 people were leaving the Peckham Hall of Varieties. Fortunately, no harm was done; the officers of the establishment being able to preserve order in the darkness. Still, the case could only properly have been met by a severe penalty; but the magistrate, while expressing his wish to send the prisoner to gaol for a lengthened period, could do no more than the law allowed, which was to bind him over to keep the peace. There seems an opportunity here for a useful little piece of legislation.

The occupation of a shoeblack in this metropolis seems to be more profitable and is certainly less laborious than that of many a clergyman in these hard times. From the report of the South London Shoeblack Society just issued, it appears that during the past year the earnings of the boys amounted to £891 12s. 9d., giving an average of 16s. 9½d. earned per boy per week. Not only clergymen but distressed landowners, and a host of others who now have a difficulty in finding means of subsistence, might do worse than invest a few shillings in a bottle of blacking and some brushes, and, stationing themselves at the corners of the streets, make a pleasing addition to their scanty incomes. Nor is there any reason to anticipate any material reduction in the profits to be earned by shoe-blackening. Year by year the pavements are allowed to remain in so dirty a condition that pedestrians with any regard for appearances find it necessary to avail themselves more largely of the shoeblack's services. A thorough reform of the vestries would, of course, injuriously affect the boot-cleaning industry; but there is no ground for anticipating any step in this direction at present.

That primitive man, who—as Mr. Lang sings—"lived upon oysters and foes," had brought the difficult art of brain-surgery to a considerable degree of perfection must have been news to most of Mr. Victor Horsley's audience at the Royal Institution. The operation of trephining to which the lecturer most particularly referred must have been pretty serious in days when the surgeons sawed through the skull with a stone saw, and, so far at least, no traces of the use of anæsthetics have been discovered. But it is comforting to learn that "pathological evidence shows that the majority of patients must have survived the operation." The lecturer explained that the operation was doubtless undertaken to relieve depressed fracture of the cranium, which would not only cause acute pain but probably also produce epilepsy. If the epilepsy was cured by trephining, we can understand how the idea of exorcising the evil spirit that possessed the patient would naturally take its rise. No explanation was given of the extraordinary fact that the operation was so common that a single museum in Paris possesses no fewer than about

sixty specimens bearing upon this point. Probably in days when edged tools as yet were not, and cutting and thrusting were therefore impossible modes of attack, the combatants "went for" each other's heads with their celts as a matter of course, much as their modern representative the British schoolboy now does with his fists.

"A Cambridge Tutor" writes:—It is quite true that the Chancellor's medal for English verse is not awarded this year; but I happen to know that this is not because the poems submitted were of inferior quality. This I have from the best possible authority: no other than six of the competitors, each of whom has told me that as a matter of fact his poem was perhaps the best of the kind ever written. As you may think that this sounds vain, I hasten to add that none of these gentlemen sought the prize for self-glorification. They are unanimous—though each spoke to me on the subject separately—in saying that personally the medal is a thing they don't want at all; only they are sorry that the reputation of the university should suffer. I thought you might like to know this.

The following passages from the *United Irishman* have been reprinted in a Dublin newspaper:—

We have repeatedly stated in this paper our unalterable conviction that the English are a nation of scoundrels—the most unprincipled, dishonest, and rapacious of the human race. No private assassination is too cruel, no public massacre too widespread, for this nation of incorrigible miscreants. This we deem it our duty to repeat at every possible opportunity. An ignorance or forgetfulness of this truth has led to all the disasters of Ireland. Until it is thoroughly understood—until Irishmen take it thoroughly to heart—until it becomes the primal article in the political creed of the Irish nation—the independence of that country is wholly impossible. The freedom of Ireland is incompatible with a good opinion of Englishmen. Their lower classes are brutes, their middle classes are swindlers—their aristocracy are foul, loathsome, and degraded blackguards. If the Irish people thoroughly understood the profound depravity and abominable wickedness of the English character they would never expect from parliamentary agitation the concessions which guilty oppression will yield only to panic terror. Nothing will teach honesty to a nation of swindlers except abject fear of a violent, bloody, and immediate death.

The evil consequences of an earthquake are not confined to the quaking of the earth, the damage to property, and the injury to health, whether by concussion or exposure. These are the direct consequences; but the indirect consequences are even worse. The correspondent of the *Times* gives some graphic instances of earthquake demoralization. Demoralized trains arrive at their destination an hour and a quarter late. Guards and porters, musing on the horrors of ten days ago, forget to call the names of the stations. Those who escape demoralization are rendered miserable by the "perpetual recurrence of earthquake talk." At any sacrifice of convenience, and at any risk to their health, they fly to some place where there has been no earthquake to talk about. There are perhaps some railway companies in England to whom an earthquake might prove a boon, as affording an unwonted excuse for habitual unpunctuality; even as the schoolboy arriving late for early school might rejoice in being able to say, "Please, sir, the earthquake demoralized me." But, upon the whole, especially as we know something about "earthquake talk" even at this distance, we may congratulate ourselves on the immunity of this country, and hope for its continuance.

M. Dagneau, the chief of the *claque* at the Théâtre Français, has resigned; M. Claretie having reduced the pay of the post from £24 to £12 a month. His clerk has accepted the office, which, in addition to the ten francs a day, gives him the free disposal of twenty of the best places in the pit every night in the year. There are always plenty of applicants for these free seats; and, a decent coat being absolutely *de rigueur*, only persons of a certain respectability are allowed to join the band. It usually includes a large sprinkling of unappreciated and impecunious poets and dramatists on classical nights; while the task of applauding the modern *répertoire* is confided to a more youthful and vigorous contingent mainly recruited from the shops and offices. The *chef* attends the last ten rehearsals of each new piece. He sits behind the author and the manager in the body of the house, and keeps a careful record of the passages which they recommend to his professional notice. The *claque* at the Français is not nearly so offensive as at some of the other Parisian houses. An actor's first *entrée* in the course of a performance provokes no demonstration, for instance. Recalls, too, are left entirely in the hands of the public. The *claque* energetically supports such demands, once started; but it never gives the signal for them.

Those who think that the English school of water-colour painting is to be blamed for the failure in this country to profit by the example of Turner and Constable, will find new grounds for their belief in a picture just given to the South Kensington Museum by Mr. James Orrock. It is a large Claudesque landscape in oil by George Barrett. It has been hung within the last few days close to the two fine De Wints given by that painter's daughter, Mrs. Tatlock. Like them, it shows how much genius, how much strength to reach the summits of art, was expended forty years ago upon drawings which, exquisite as they are, are condemned by their minute size and the want of force inherent in their material to play a comparatively humble

rôle in the history of art. If they had worked in oil, the names of Girtin, Cox, Barrett, De Wint, Fielding, Varley, William Hunt, Cattermole, and a host more would by this time have been as widely famous as that of Constable or of the Frenchmen who followed in his footsteps. Barrett has left many lovely drawings behind him; but we question whether anything he ever did is to be preferred, even in quality, to this oil landscape. In the foreground the man accustomed to a lighter medium peeps out. The larger trees are a little wanting in substance, and the rendering of their foliage lacks animation and variety. But the ordonnance of the picture as a whole is completely rhythmical. The gradation of planes into the misty distance is finely managed, and the whole landscape is bathed in that transparent golden haze of which Barrett was almost as great a master as Cuypp. The gift of such a work should stimulate to fresh endeavours all those who wish to see the English school fitly represented in our public collections.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE ROMANCE OF HORROR.

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

SIR,—A good-humoured writer in the *Daily News* deals with my letter to you of the 1st inst. in a way which is more witty than convincing. "Man," he says, "is a fighting animal. 'Camillus' does not allow for this." But, with submission to my critic, I do. I do not agree with him that "all good [narrative] literature is full of good fights;" because I bethink me of various works (those of Richardson, let us say, or Balzac, or Thackeray, or George Eliot) commonly regarded as good literature, in which good fights are rare or altogether absent. However, I expressly stated that the romancer must sometimes talk of battles and single combats, which, moreover, are agreeable things—in a book. In real life they are not at all agreeable, because they are accompanied by many sights, sounds, and smells, which are in the last degree horrible. It is the business of the novelist to give us the fight without these incidents, or with them so much softened down that they are no longer disgusting. Let him represent the pomp and panoply of glorious war; let him portray the cunning of fence, the quickness of hand and eye, the resolute nerve, the courage, the endurance, with which a brave man fights against fearful odds, and wins. But let him leave out the scattered brains, the bleeding wounds, the hacked limbs, and many other details which are real enough but not calculated to give pleasure. A butcher's shop is not a pretty object. Art requires painting, not photography. You cannot put everything in a picture, and you ought not to do so. This is the lesson which the French realists decline to learn. To satisfy curiosity or excite amusement, they persist in tearing away the veil that hides certain matters which exist but none the less should not be spoken of. The friendly warning I ventured to offer our romancers (whose talents I esteem as highly as any one) was directed against what seemed to me a tendency of a somewhat similar kind. We like "good fights"—fights such as Scott knew how to give us; but they should be combats with the gloves—pretty exhibitions of skill and pluck—not pugilistic encounters of the old P.R. kind, with all the accompaniments of smashed noses, crunched teeth, broken jaws, and "claret" running in streams. The fact that Homer put in plenty of "realistic" details is surely not much to the purpose. If anybody wrote of battles in the manner of Homer nowadays, we should not like it, any more than we should if they wrote of certain other matters with the naïve freedom of some of the old ballads.

There are things which shock one, besides fighting represented too realistically and too fully. The scene of the burning bodies in that clever story "She" appears to me quite indefensible. The writer in the *Daily News* says that it only illustrates the surprising changes of the world and the nothingness of the bodily tabernacle. We shall hear of the high moral purpose of Captain Mayne Reid and the philosophical ideal of M. Jules Verne next. If a writer of glorified books for boys cannot point his moral without incidents of this sort, he should leave it out. This is Mr. Haggard's way of teaching us that all flesh is grass:—

On rushed the bearers of the flaming corpses, and, meeting at a spot about twenty paces in front of us, built their ghastly burdens crossways into a huge bonfire. Heavens! how they roared and flared! No tar-barrel could have burned as those mummies did! Nor was this all. Suddenly I saw one great fellow seize a flaming human arm [a pretty incident this, is it not?] that had fallen from its parent flame, and rush off into the darkness. Presently he stopped, and a tall streak of fire shot up into the air, illumining the gloom and also the lamp from which it sprang. That lamp was the mummy of a woman tied to a stout stake let into the rock, and he had fired her hair. On he went a few paces and touched a second, then a third, and a fourth, till at last we were surrounded on all three sides by a great ring of bodies flaring furiously; the material with which they were preserved having rendered them so inflammable that the flame would literally spout out of the ears and mouth in tongues of fire a foot or more in length.

Pleasant reading that, Sir, is it not? The corpses of men and women, so artfully embalmed that they look as if they were alive, flaring away, with tongues of flame spouting out of their mouths and ears. Mr. Haggard, we are informed, *virginibus puerisque cantat*. The above is a nice, graceful, little picture for boys and girls—especially the girls—to dream over and dwell upon. But I forget. There is a deep moral through it all; and this is how our moralist, after the usual reference to Cæsar's dust and the bung-hole, goes on with well-timed jocularity:—

Those old citizens of Kôr burned as—to judge from their sculptures and inscriptions, they had lived—very fast and with the utmost liberality. What is more, there were plenty of them. [In the next edition I should suggest that the words "all very fine and large" be inserted at this point.] As soon as ever a mummy had burned down to the ankles, which it did in about twenty minutes, the feet were kicked away and another one put in its place.

The feet were kicked away! That is Mr. Haggard's method of inculcating "the nothingness of the bodily tabernacle." Observe that this is not the only time he preaches from his lofty text. Burning a corpse is so pleasant a

thing to talk about that we not only have the holocaust at Ayesha's garden-party, but also a little rehearsal in the cave of the Amahaggar. On page 111 of the novel old Billali describes how he fell in love with a mummified beauty, how he would "creep up to her and kiss her cold face," and how his mother, disapproving of this blameless attachment, "set fire to her hair, and she burnt fiercely even down to the feet, for those who are thus kept burnt excellently well." Then Mr. Holly is requested to look up to the roof of the cave, and "there, sure enough, on the roof of the sepulchre, was a peculiarly unctuous and sooty mark, three feet or more across."

I do hope Mr. Haggard's friend the Young Person will like that little *historiette*. It is all so well suited to "the maiden fancies of sixteen," especially that delicate, tasteful, little touch of realism about the peculiar greasy mark upon the walls. No doubt the learned writer of the *Daily News* would say that there are things as horrible in much other "good literature"—in *Æschylus*, for instance, or *Dante*. Yes; but some matters which may be admitted when treated with the solemnity of tragedy and poetry ought not to be brought in lightly to amuse the reader of a novel.

If I seem to criticise some passages in Mr. Haggard's tale rather severely, it is not because I am insensible to the many merits of the work as a whole. I am fully alive to Mr. Haggard's imagination, his industry, his skill in working-up situations, and his extraordinary powers of description. The more pity that so brilliant and promising a writer should occasionally fall into such errors of taste and feeling as those I have noticed. It is the part of the candid critic (almost as unpopular a person as the candid friend) to warn him gently of them before they have grown to be faults which will not be eradicated. Besides, he must remember, as I have said before, that he will have imitators who, without his talent and narrative power, will find it easy to reproduce and exaggerate this charnel-house sensationalism; especially if he educates his public into a taste for it. Let him and his admirers (of whom, indeed, I am one) consider whether there is not something in the view which I have ventured to urge upon their attention.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

March 7.

CAMILLUS.

A NEW ART.

THE sudden popularity of etchings, the flood of them in the market, and the excellence of the best examples, are healthy signs of the progress of art education. The vogue they have obtained is almost without parallel. It is only about eight years ago that Mr. Hamerton wrote with exultation to tell all whom it might concern that etchers were no longer a neglected body, and that one of his friends, a clever artist, had just sold a plate for fifty guineas. That was in 1878; and now in 1887 Mr. Macbeth has just sold a plate for a thousand guineas, and a well-known French etcher has contracted to produce one for two thousand. Such prices are sensations in the art world; but the influence of them is healthy. They are not explained by the vagaries of the auction-mart or by the competition of emulous and excited collectors. They are based on the slow but steady progress of art education, on the gradual substitution of the public for the patron. Art—said a great French painter to a class of too hopeful students collected in his *atelier*—art is not difficult; what is difficult is to sell it. The students had never thought of that lion in their path, and found art in the abstract quite difficult enough. Now it is easy to sell a good etching, for the price need not be too high; and a good etching is good art. A thousand guineas for a single plate seems enormous compared with the fifty guineas which Mr. Hamerton's clever friend received nine years ago. But though the price seems phenomenal, the inexorable laws of commerce suffer no violence. That second and greatest difficulty of the artist has been met. If 300 proofs are sold at fifteen guineas each, the publishers will receive 4,500 guineas; and with such prospects the thousand-guinea fee is no such sensation after all.

It is curious to trace both the suddenness of the rise in price and the influence which America has had in stimulating and supporting it. A well-known dealer in New York often tells the story how, not very long ago, he had made a collection which included some etchings of the French painter Daubigny. He was particularly anxious to get some more examples, and, having business in Europe, thought the simplest way would be to go direct to the artist. He had some difficulty in finding him, but ultimately came upon his studio on the seventh story of a house which was built before the days of elevators. The patron looked over the artist's portfolio, and selected some fifty proofs. Then came the question of price. The dealer put it bluntly, and Daubigny timidly answered that he thought the proofs were unusually fine, and he did not like to part with them at less than a franc apiece. The story sounds as if it belonged to the Dr. Johnson period of literature. It only happened nine years ago, and these very proofs would probably fetch eight or ten guineas apiece if they were sold at an auction-room to-day. Another American dealer is able to supply from his books statistics of this sudden rise in the popularity of the new art. Etchings constituted in the year 1876 2 per cent. of his stock; which also consisted of engravings, mezzotints, chromo-lithographs, etc. Next year they came to 9½ per cent.; the following year 21 per cent.; in 1881, 26 per cent.; in 1882, 33 per cent.; in 1883, 73 per cent. The figures have since fallen to 60 per cent., at which they stand. London has itself to record very much the same experience. In 1868, when the first edition of Hamerton's "Etchings and Etchers" was published, not one of our present well-known etchers had touched the needle. Mr. David Law, Mr. T. C. Farrer, Mr. Macbeth, Mr. Waltner, were either unknown or known for very different work; indeed, for some years after 1868 it was deemed quite impossible for an artist to make even a poor living by this branch of art. But though it received its great impetus about the same time in both countries, yet the two capitals take very different lines in the support and development of it. The London publisher, always with that second difficulty of "how to sell" in sight, looks for his reward to wholesale transactions. The New York dealer

is so interested in the example that he apparently disregards the dozen or the gross. Art seems his object more than commerce. Thus he has introduced the printing on vellum, which is extremely costly, both from the value of the material and from the risk of many failures preceding a single success. A really fine print on vellum is like a print on ivory. It is said there is only one man living who can print successful and beautiful proofs on this difficult material. French etchers sometimes have their proofs printed on skins; but they use sheepskin, which is cheaper and easier to work with than the calfskin, which is the true vellum, and which was the material used by the old monks for the illumination of missals and breviaries. Rich and heavy satin is another surface in favour with American publishers. The satin costs a guinea a yard, and the effect is wonderfully soft and brilliant. But vellum so surpasses all other textures that it would be in much greater use but for the difficulty of manipulating it. It so varies in surface and quality that the greatest care and skill will not always ensure the ink being taken up in a uniform manner. Some parts of the skin will stick to the plate, while others will refuse to receive an impression. Failures with these materials are, however, only money losses. So many skins are spoilt, and their value represents the extent of the loss. Lately a fashion has arisen of printing on stained paper, or of printing in many different coloured inks used on the same plate; both of which innovations seem rather dangerous to art. Some of the finest plates lately published have been injured by this mechanical trick of staining the paper before printing on it. Indeed, old as the etcher's art is, yet so young is it in its new development that the period of empiricism has not yet been lived through. Every week we hear of marvellous new mechanical processes, having for their aim the reproduction of the artist's thought without labour or difficulty. Sometimes tints are put upon the plates with a preparation of sealing-wax and spirits of wine; sometimes they are rolled with the roulettes to produce strong darks; sometimes they are scratched with an instrument like a four-pronged fork, and the surface sand-papered and bitten away to make certain parts stand up and print white. These methods, legitimate to a certain degree, are sometimes pushed to trickery. But the best work is still the simplest: a reproduction of the methods by which the old masters of the art produced their priceless results. If our etchers are to rival Rembrandt in excellence, they must have his knowledge and patience and instinct. The charm of etching—the charm that made it appreciated in the old days and so popular in these—is that for all its cheapness it is really art, and not manufacture.

THE HOTCHKISS GUNS.

THE rush for Hotchkiss gun shares is not very surprising. All the existing companies manufacturing war material are paying good dividends; and Eley, Kynoch, Nobel, and Nordenfolt shares have long been at a high premium. Moreover, almost any good weapon is sure of a lucrative market in times like these; and the excellence of the Hotchkiss guns was demonstrated long ago.

It is some years since Mr. Hotchkiss, an American gentleman, brought out his "revolving cannon." It consists of a group of five barrels revolving round a central shaft, and connecting with a breech containing the loading, firing, and extracting mechanism. This mechanism is singularly ingenious. Practically one wheel, turned by a crank-handle, does all the work. A worm on the circumference revolves the barrels, a crank at the left-hand side effects the loading and discharging, and a cam at the right-hand side does the firing. Let us imagine the cannon in action. The first barrel, loaded, is at the firing-point. The cam releases the firing-bolt, and the discharge takes place. The barrel, with its empty cartridge-case, moves away, and its place is taken by the second barrel, which is fired in turn. Meanwhile, the "extractor" has laid hold of the empty cartridge, and gradually draws it out as the barrel moves round towards the loading-point. On arriving there, the barrel receives a fresh charge, which is driven home as the firing-point is reached; and so on with the other barrels. At any given moment the position is this: one barrel is ready for firing, the second is coming down to the firing-point with its cartridge home, the third has its cartridge almost home, the fourth is empty and about to receive its load, the fifth is having its empty cartridge extracted and as soon as the first barrel has been fired will come up to the loading-point for a new cartridge. All that the gunner has to do is to aim and turn the handle, with the result that he can pour a shower of projectiles on the enemy at the rate of 400 per minute. Of course the cannon does not fire that number of cartridges. Twenty discharges per minute is considered good work; but each shell splits into an average of twenty fragments, making 400 missiles in all. The gun is swung in an exact balance upon what amounts to a swivel-joint, so that the gunner can point it in any desired direction.

The distinguishing feature of the Hotchkiss cannon is that it fires shells—not bullets, like the Nordenfolt, Maxim, Gatling, and other machine-guns. The international law of Europe does not permit the use of shells less than 14 oz. in weight, for everything below that standard is regarded as an explosive bullet. In consequence, the Hotchkiss cannon became more an artillery than an infantry arm, and as now made is admirably adapted for siege operations, whether offensive or defensive, and for use against torpedo-boats. Imagine the effect of twenty shells of 1.45 in. calibre falling every minute among an attacking force, or scattering their fragments among the defenders of a fort, or seeking out the weak points of an advancing torpedo-boat! It has been proved again and again that, in the two minutes which usually constitute the duration of a torpedo attack, the torpedo-boat would on the average be hit eight times; each shell not only puncturing the side, but tearing its way through bulkhead after bulkhead and dealing destruction in all directions. A shell fired at 250 yards, for example, went through the side and then through two bulkheads, before exploding. It exploded in passing through

the third bulkhead, and the fragments made twenty-five holes in the fifth and eighteen in the sixth: in fact, this one shell completely riddled the boat. And twenty of these shells can be discharged in a minute, with a percentage of 38.2 of hits as compared with the shots. An advancing torpedo-boat, observed when at a distance of 1,000 yards and going eighteen knots, would stand very little chance of ever reaching the point of torpedo discharge if the defending ship had only one Hotchkiss cannon manned by a fairly good gunner.

The Hotchkiss "single barrel rapid-firing non-recoil gun" was designed to meet the demand for a machine-gun of larger calibre but not of greater weight than the revolving five-barrel cannon. The calibre of the cannon could not be increased without diminishing its handiness, so that the single-barrel principle had to be adopted. This gun can, like the cannon, swing freely in all directions, and the smaller sizes can be worked by one man. Like the cannon, too, it is fired from the shoulder, so that almost as much accuracy of aim can be attained as with a rifle; indeed, in all essential features the two weapons are nearly identical. The breech mechanism is of course different. As to results, twenty rounds of shell can be fired per minute with just as disastrous effect upon the enemy as is noted above.

In general appearance the gun and the cannon do not greatly vary, except as regards the number of barrels. They both look something like telescopes, and can be trained as easily. The gunner having arranged the cartridges in the conduit which leads them to the loading-point, plants his shoulder against the stock, takes aim, and turns the handle. The actual firing is done automatically, but it can be controlled by a trigger if necessary. Various mounts adapt the gun and the cannon to service by sea and land, in the field and in the fort. Nothing is wanting to fit them for all the operations of warfare; and, as the only shell-firing machine-guns in existence, they are certain to play a considerable part in the warfare of the future.

BUDDHISM IN CHRISTENDOM.*

"THE position of her gracious Majesty Queen Victoria is a very peculiar one," says Mr. Lillie. "She holds in her dominions the most vital sections of all the great religions of the past. Her subjects pray to Christ, and Buddha, and Brahma, and Jehovah. They honour Zarathustra, and Moses, and Mahomet. Benares, the holy city of the greatest religious section of her subjects, is in her domains. She guards the so-called Tooth of Buddha, whose possessor is always promised the empire of the world. No wonder that thoughtful minds begin to see in all this a possible mission for England—namely, to fuse the old creeds in one great crucible, and eliminate the superstitious parts. Ancient creeds had much in common; and it is chiefly this common part—the vital essence—that has been allowed to evaporate."

Mr. Lillie's present effort towards the fusion of old creeds is an attempt to show that Christianity and Buddhism are of one and the same spirit, and that Christ must be regarded as the successor and continuator of Buddha. His method of proof is to collect and select here and there odd fragments and morsels of both creeds, and to draw attention to the fact that, when they have undergone due melting in the common crucible, it becomes possible to twist and bend them into similar forms and patterns. The worst of it is that from this process we have an exactly opposite result to the one promised us. It is precisely the "vital essence" of both creeds that we find has evaporated; whilst we are invited to institute comparisons between mere dregs and lees (fantastic symbols, legends, miracles, extravagant asceticism, and senseless ritual, etc.), correctly described as the "superstitious parts," the material alloy that remains when the pure and shining ore of spiritual belief has been eliminated. This is all the more provoking because Mr. Lillie is no pedantic Casaubon, groping for the "key to all mythologies," with the purpose of unlocking every shrine before which human souls have been lifted in divine worship, only to prove the inner treasure some myth resulting from a "disease of language" or, worse still, some relic of obscene fetishism. Mr. Lillie has undeniably a fine feeling for ideas and ideals beautiful in themselves, and a liberal sympathy with those aspirations and desires that raise human life above the sensations and appetites of animal existence. But he has no just sense of the relations of these ideas to each other; still less has he the perspicacity of judgment that would save a discerning critic from the attempt to fit into one scheme religious beliefs that are derived from two distinct spiritual sources. Plainly, the supreme difficulty Mr. Lillie had at the outset to overcome, if Buddhism and Christianity were to be shown to be one and the same religion, was the generally accepted belief that Christianity has its foundations in Semitic Monotheism and Buddhism in Aryan Pantheism; that, while belief in a personal God and the personal immortality of the soul is the "vital essence" of the one creed, the vital essence of the other is disbelief in every phase of the personal life and of material conditions, and faith in Divine Intelligence as the only real existence. But Mr. Lillie betrays by no sign that he is aware that these are the essential differences he has rashly undertaken to harmonize. He appears to imagine that he is accomplishing his task satisfactorily when he exercises his ingenuity to prove that Jonah's whale is a mystical monster of the same kindred as the white elephant of Buddhism; that the dress and ritual of Buddhist monks in Thibet resemble those that distinguish Catholic orders; and that the legends told of the child Jesus in the uncanonical "Gospel of Infancy" resemble the marvellous histories narrated of the infant Buddha in the equally unauthoritative Lalita-Vistara.

The main point that Mr. Lillie wishes to prove is that Buddha and Christ were mystics, and that they promulgated their doctrines

secretly. Nothing, of course, can be more opposed to the narrative of the Gospels, nor to the account given in the orthodox Buddhist scriptures of Buddha's preaching. But whilst Mr. Lillie gives the Gospel of Infancy and the Lalita-Vistara more serious respect than such purely fabulous records deserve, he dismisses the evidence of Saints Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John with the same scant reverence that he shows for the Pitakas when these canonical works presume to contradict his pet theories. Mr. Lillie somewhere declares that, "whereas mysticism has an infinite number of symbols, it has one truth; and this is, that there is a spiritual state and a material state." Defined thus broadly, mysticism is of the very essence, in truth, of all religions indiscriminately. In effect, the general purpose of religion is to insist upon the importance of the spiritual state; while the special purpose of all religions is to give a direction and aim to the spiritual life. The direction and aim of Buddhism and Christianity are distinct; but, since both have the spiritual life in view, there can be no objection to describing both creeds as mystical, so long as it is kept in mind that the term used in this sense may be applied to all the religions of the world. But Mr. Lillie is not using the word in this harmless way when he insists that both Gotama and Jesus were mystics, initiates in some secret sect, the inheritors of the knowledge of mysteries that they could convey only under oath of secrecy to their disciples whilst they amused the common people by moral fables and obscure parables. By this statement he is labouring to overthrow the belief cherished by generation after generation of Christians and Buddhists alike: that the founders of their different creeds resembled each other in this: that both were simplifiers of religion; that both taught that holiness is in the perfect spirit, and not in external observances; that both condemned alike self-indulgence and excessive asceticism; that both declared the Gospel of the Truth was not obscured by mysteries nor reserved for a chosen few, but that it was thrown open freely and perfectly to all men and all women also who were willing to receive it. We are afraid Mr. Lillie will hardly establish so close or beautiful a relationship between the founders of Buddhism and Christianity as this one that he does not recognize. But this relationship does not prove that one religion has emerged from the other, nor that the history of one spiritual teacher has been modelled upon that of the other. It proves only that in all times and in all countries the souls of men have been moved and won by the same methods; and that every great religious movement has been a return to simple spiritual faith, not an initiation into secret rites or mysteries.

DOING OUR BUSINESS.

ENGLISH farmers have been strongly urged to grow more fruit and vegetables and to keep a larger number of fowls for the supply of the great markets. For several reasons the advice has not been widely acted upon. There has been a lack of capital for investment in this way; we have had exceptionally good fruit years, and prices have been low; above all, there has been the middleman to contend with. Yet every day the demand for eggs and market-garden produce increases: a demand which, as far as all events as regards eggs, is supplied almost entirely from the Continent. Considerable quantities of fruit and vegetables are also sent to London from abroad; but foreign consignors of this perishable produce have likewise felt the heavy hand of the middleman.

Now, however, a determined effort is about to be made in Belgium to do what our own farmers have failed to do. In Antwerp, last week, a company was formed for the supply of fruit, vegetables, eggs, poultry, and game, not only to London, but to such populous places as Hull, Grimsby, Goole, and Leith, with all of which Antwerp is in almost daily communication. The founders of the company are acting upon a suggestion made some time ago by the King of the Belgians, who said he failed to see why Belgium should not become the chief purveyor of perishable food (butcher's meat excepted) to the five million inhabitants of London. Among the shareholders are already several members of the Belgian Senate; one of whom, Count Adolphe de Ribaucourt, is president of the Conseil Supérieur d'Agriculture. The capital intended to be raised is £48,000, in shares of £20 each. The company will consign produce to its own agents here, who will place it directly upon the market at a far smaller percentage than is at present charged by the middleman. These agents will be in constant communication with Antwerp; and when there is a glut of any particular article the fact will be immediately telegraphed to headquarters, and thus will be removed all fear of any such shocking waste of food as so often occurs at Billingsgate.

But the operations of the company will not be confined to the mere despatch and sale of produce. It will provide assistance, in the way of supplying seeds and manures, to cultivators who are unable to go to expense for these things, taking as security a mortgage upon the crops. Sometimes it will make pecuniary advances. In this there is of course an element of risk; but your Belgian man of business is nothing if not shrewd, and no doubt this department of the company's operations will be conducted with prudence. The directors are some of the largest landed proprietors and the most solid business-men in the country; and there is abundant reason to expect that the experiment will succeed. If it does, it will be a very serious matter for English market-gardeners and those farmers who have been selling their produce at a profit in London. From Antwerp to Parkeston Quay is but ninety miles; from Parkeston to London is little more than an hour's journey. It is obvious that the Great Eastern Railway, which in summer runs two large steamers, and in winter one, every day between Parkeston and Antwerp, will be able, even without any preferential rates whatever, by reason of the regularity and extent of the traffic, to convey Belgian produce to London at very low rates. These low freights, added to the small cost of production in a country where labour is cheap, will almost ensure sales in London at prices which will do much to drive our own fruit, vegetables, or what not out of the field. Is it impossible for English farmers to combine as their foreign rivals are doing?

* "Buddhism in Christendom." By Arthur Lillie. (London: Kegan Paul, Trench, and Co. 1887.)

THE ST. JAMES'S GAZETTE.

FOURTH EDITION.

SERIOUS CHARGE AGAINST AN ADMIRALTY OFFICIAL.

ALLEGED DIVULGENCE OF PLANS TO FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS.

The Press Association is informed that much sensation has been caused in Admiralty circles by the circulation of a rumour that a Government official, holding a responsible position in the Constructive Department of the Navy, has been detected in an abuse of trust by furnishing to the representatives in England of certain foreign Powers designs of vessels in course of construction and details of certain modern improvements in torpedo and other fittings. It is stated that suspicion has for some time existed in the minds of the heads of the department that certain information of a confidential character had leaked out; and this suspicion had from time to time been strengthened by the appearance of articles in foreign scientific journals treating of various innovations in the English naval service. In one case the exact wording of a supposed confidential specification setting out in detail the construction of a new type of torpedo-fitting was discovered in an American journal, this being the more extraordinary because the document containing the description had never left the draughtsman's office, and has not even yet, as the work was not to be proceeded with pending the approval of the naval authorities. Professor Elgar, the Director of Dockyards, accompanied by two of the Admiralty officials, has paid a visit to one of the Government dockyards for the purpose of making inquiries into the matter. These inquiries having been completed, he returned to Whitehall last evening, and the Press Association learns that an official has, as a consequence, been suspended. It is believed, among those in a position to know, that further and more precise information regarding the affair will be available for the public in the course of a few days, as there is a strong suspicion that the actions complained of have been proceeding for a considerable time.

THE ROUND TABLE CONFERENCE.

STATE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS.

During the last few days reports have appeared in various quarters alleging certain definite conclusions reached at the Round Table Conference. How far these reports coincided with the facts of the case may be gathered from the following statement to which the *Daily News* gives prominence:—

These reports are, to say the least, premature, for the reason, sufficient in itself, that even to his most intimate colleagues Mr. Gladstone has not expressed any opinion upon the points raised. That Mr. Parnell has not been communicated with is another indication of the desirability of not placing full confidence in the reports. As a matter of fact, the meetings of the conference have been intermitted for several weeks. Up to the time of the appearance of Mr. Chamberlain's letter, published in the *Baptist*, matters were progressing favourably. That communication was, we understand, regarded by Mr. Gladstone and by his colleagues in the late Ministry especially concerned with the conference as a demonstration of unfriendliness that had a special bearing upon the consultation invited by Mr. Chamberlain. Since then nothing has taken place beyond communications by letter between Mr. Chamberlain and Sir William Harcourt. We have, however, reason to believe that the hitch which thereupon arose will not have permanent effect upon the drift of the consultation, which is on all sides conducted with an earnest desire to bring about the reunion of the Liberal party. Mr. Chamberlain is certainly anxious to further so desirable a consummation. Sir George Trevelyan's views are set forth in the authorized extract from his speech delivered the other night at the Devonshire Club. Even more important is the fact that Lord Hartington is believed, in quarters where his views are known, to be more friendly to a settlement of the Irish question upon Home Rule principles than he was some time ago. While the definite and detailed accounts of the progress of the conference just now current are not accurate, there is no doubt that the meetings under the presidency of Lord Herschell have uniformly tended towards reunion of the party. One important conclusion arrived at is agreement upon the main principle of the Home Rule Bill introduced by Mr. Gladstone. On minor points agreement on a common ground has also been taken at the conference. But some time must elapse before a final agreement is reached.

The London correspondent of the *Leeds Mercury* writes:—

Lord Hartington has taken no part in the negotiations for the reunion of the Liberal party. He, of course, has always occupied a different position from Mr. Chamberlain, and is resolutely opposed to Home Rule, on a federal or any other basis. The prospect of bringing him back to the Liberal party at the present moment is not very bright. It seems to be expected that if Lord Hartington declines to return to the Liberal fold he will be deserted by a large body of his followers. This, however, is a mistake. The fifty or sixty Liberals who follow Lord Hartington will stand by him, and will not, therefore, give any vote that would turn out the present Government. The fate of the Ministry rests in Lord Hartington's hands, and the noble lord still remains as firmly opposed to the principles of Mr. Gladstone's Irish policy as ever. But I believe that he does not take a mere *non possumus* view of the Irish question. On the contrary, he is convinced that what Lord Salisbury calls a "far-reaching measure" for dealing with the Irish question must be brought forward, and it is not improbable that he will assist the Government in producing such a scheme. In the meantime, in the view of the noble lord, the first duty of the Government is to restore social order, and he will, therefore, support them in their demand for special powers. Mr. Gladstone's efforts to bring about an early reunion of the Liberal party are prompted by the desire to defeat the coming Coercion Bill. Everybody recognizes that the conflict over this Bill will be the turning-point of the session. If the Government surmount the struggle over the Coercion Bill, they will probably go through the session; but defeat on that measure would lead to an immediate dissolution. The Government would go the country on coercion, and the Liberal party on conciliation; and we can, therefore, see why Mr. Gladstone would strain every nerve to secure the defeat of that Bill. But if it be true that not only Lord Hartington but Mr. Chamberlain will support the Bill, I fear that the Government will carry the day. I believe that Mr. Chamberlain holds the view that even if we are to grant a Constitution of some kind to Ireland it must be preceded by the restoration of law and order. Mr. Chamberlain still cherishes the hope of a "national settlement" of the Irish question.

THE THEATRICAL CONTRACT ACTION.—VERDICT.

The hearing of the action of Ingham v. Lord Lonsdale and Another was resumed to-day before Mr. Justice Field and a special jury in the Queen's Bench Division. The plaintiff, wife of Mr. John Edward Ingham, but better known in the theatrical profession as Mdme. Cornélie D'Anka, brought her action to recover damages for breach of a contract entered into in June, 1886, the defendants being Lord Lonsdale and Miss Violet Cameron, the proprietors of the Violet Cameron Comedy Company. The plaintiff's case was that she was engaged to play the part of the Creole, in the comic opera entitled "The Commodore," for a period of about two months, the conditions being six night performances and one matinée. The defence was that there was a mutual rescission of contract, and that the plaintiff declined to carry out the engagement unless she was paid for all matinées. The plaintiff, however, asserted that she never threw up the engagement, and said that a second agreement provided for more than one matinée. In discussing that point the misunderstanding arose. Mr. Kemp, Q.C., and Mr. Clay appeared for the plaintiff; Mr. Murphy, Q.C., Mr. Greene, Q.C., and Mr. Lush for the defendants.

His lordship stated that he would allow the defendants to amend their plea so as to raise the question whether the plaintiff declined to carry out the agreement. Lord Lonsdale, in re-examination, said there were only three matinées during the tour. The dresses were all ready for Mdme. D'Anka.

Miss Violet Cameron said that on Saturday, the 26th of June, she heard the plaintiff tell Lord Lonsdale that she would not accept the engagement unless she had full salary for the morning performance on Saturdays. The witness did not hear the plaintiff say anything about matinées on bank holidays. The Creole was a very difficult part, and would take a competent artiste a week or ten days to learn. Until the conversation referred to there was not the slightest intention to dismiss Mdme. D'Anka.

Mr. H. B. Farnie deposed to being told by Lord Lonsdale that the plaintiff refused to go on with the engagement unless paid for matinées. The plaintiff complained that the agreement contained terms contrary to her understanding.

Miss Constance Loseby stated that the first she heard of the engagement was by telegram on a Saturday night. The Creole was a difficult part and took her a week to learn.

Thomas Aldous, a cabman, gave evidence as to the delivery of a letter at Mdme. D'Anka's house on the Sunday after the conversation between the plaintiff and Lord Lonsdale.

Mr. D'Albertson, acting manager of the company, also gave evidence, and the defendants' case was closed.

Mr. Murphy contended that the defendants were entitled to a verdict upon the ground that the plaintiff so conducted herself and used such language on the Saturday when the first conversation took place as reasonably induced the defendants to think that she did not intend to be bound by her agreement at all, and that, in fact, she did not intend to play in the company unless she was paid for every matinée. Mr. Murphy also contended that the two agreements were practically the same.

Mr. Kemp, on behalf of the plaintiff, on the other hand submitted that the letter of Lord Lonsdale showed that he was dismissing the plaintiff for her unwillingness—not her refusal—to comply with the terms of the agreement. The defendants and the witnesses put it much higher to-day, and stated that the plaintiff distinctly stated that she refused to fulfil her engagement. Was not this the solution of the case? Lord Lonsdale had begun to perceive the extensive character of his venture, and was annoyed when Mdme. D'Anka asked for concessions which he did not think she was entitled to. Could they not fancy his lordship saying, "Confound the woman! I will have nothing more to do with her, as she is behaving in this cantankerous way. I will see whether I cannot get some one cheaper; and then I will send her to the right-about?" The quarrel, in short, was not about the non-fulfilment of the agreement, but about the additional terms which the plaintiff wished to obtain.

His lordship having summed up,

The jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff, damages £125. His lordship gave judgment for the amount certified for a special jury, and refused to stay execution.

THE ROSSENDALE LIBERALS.

The meetings of the various sections of the Rossendale Liberal Association are stated to have terminated in the resignation of three of the most influential Liberals in the Rossendale Valley—namely, Mr. Thomas Brooks, ex-high sheriff of the county, and chairman of Lord Hartington's Election Committee; Mr. Edward Ashworth, of Staghill, the treasurer; and Mr. Thomas Hayle Whitehead, of Holly Mount. Mr. Brooks has sent a letter of resignation, in which he says:—"I much regret the meetings of the Rossendale Liberal Association have lately been attended by comparatively few members. This probably arises from one district, the Haslingden, having already withdrawn from the association, and others wishing to manage the registration business locally, and also, no doubt, to some extent, owing to the disunion of the Liberal party, which I hope may be only temporary." Mr. Brooks's action in proposing Mr. Thursby at Burnley has been severely commented upon, and a meeting of the association, after lasting over three hours, broke up without a vote of thanks, which was proposed, to the three gentlemen for their past services being put.

SUICIDE IN A RAILWAY CARRIAGE.

A few minutes before eleven o'clock this morning, upon the arrival at Dalston Junction of a train from Broad-street, one of the passengers reported that he had heard a pistol-shot in an adjoining second-class carriage, and upon one of the company's servants going to the carriage indicated, he saw an elderly gentleman reclining on the seat, bleeding profusely from the mouth, and a revolver lying on the seat by his side. Life was not quite extinct, and the man was removed to one of the waiting-rooms, where he died a few minutes afterwards. The deceased had evidently placed the barrel of the revolver in his mouth and fired. Upon a piece of paper found in the pockets of the deceased was an address in Liversdell-road, Highbury.

THE ARREST OF A NAVAL LIEUTENANT.

A court-martial to try Lieutenant Hall for deserting from the troopship *Orontes* assembled at Devonport to-day, but immediately adjourned at the suggestion of the president, in consequence of the members of the court having been served with a summons to show cause in London to-morrow why Mr. Hall should not be released from their custody on the ground that, having resigned his commission, he was justified in taking his departure from the ship.

THE ILLNESS OF THE DUCHESS OF RICHMOND.

A telegram received from Goodwood to-day says that the Duchess of Richmond remains in the same prostrate condition.

ARCHBISHOP CROKE EXPLAINS.

Archbishop Croke, writing to the *Freeman's Journal* on his "No Tax" letter, says:—

It has been misunderstood by some and wilfully misrepresented by others. The *Nation* says that I have been charged with suggesting an alternative policy to the one at present achieving such success, and that what I propose is utterly impracticable. I was quite unprepared for this interpretation of my words. I proposed nothing; I recommended nothing; I simply expressed my individual opinion, which I had a perfect right to do, as to the relative value and reasonableness of a No Tax manifesto if issued, compared with a No Rent manifesto. I added, it is true, that a Government expending the public money in collecting rack-rents is far more to be blamed than the landlords who impose them, and that it was hard to bear with and impossible to justify such a course. But it never entered into my head to recommend a general uprising against the payment of taxes, however I may deplore the use to which the present Government has been converting them, or to suggest a policy in any way adverse to the one so successfully pursued by the Irish Parliamentary party. Of that policy I am one of the staunchest and most strenuous supporters. I trust to constitutional agitation alone, and have so trusted this many a long day, for the restoration of our national rights. As we are circumstanced, no one, I believe, but a fool or a knave could put his trust in any other line of action. Not being either as I may venture to presume, I have not openly recommended or covertly hinted at an alternative course.

RIOTING AT GALWAY.

A Galway correspondent telegraphs:—Rioting was renewed here last night, when soldiers were attacked by a mob armed with sticks and stones. One soldier was struck on the head with a loaded whip, and others were knocked down and kicked. They took refuge in shops and private houses, and but for the interference of the police matters would have been serious. Excitement runs high in the town, and it is feared the disturbances may be renewed.

FASHIONABLE MARRIAGE.

A large congregation assembled this afternoon at St. George's, Hanover-square, to witness the marriage of Lord Arthur Butler, son of the late Marquess of Ormonde, and brother of the present peer, to Miss Stager, daughter of General Stager, U.S.A. Among those present were the Duke and Duchess of Westminster, the Dowager-Marchioness of Ormonde, the Marquess and Marchioness of Ormonde, the Dowager-Marchioness of Waterford, the Marchioness of Waterford, the Honourable H. and Lady Mary Fitzwilliam, Lord and Lady Theobald Butler, Viscount Lismore, Lady Cloncurry, Lord and Lady Chesham, the Honourable A. J. Winn, Lord Henry Grosvenor, Viscount Clifton, Mr. and Mrs. Hickox, Colonel and Lady Blanche Edwards, the Honourable C. Ramsey, Lord and Lady de Vesci, Lord Ronald Leveson Gower, the Ladies C. and O. Legge, and Lord James Butler. The service was conducted by the Reverend Lord Theobald Butler, brother of the bridegroom. The bride wore a costume of white silk, the front panel of the skirt being of pearl embroidered tulle, the train of the dress being full and plain; tulle veil, surmounted by a wreath of orange blossom, and fastened to the hair by diamond stars. There were five little bridesmaids, nieces of the bridegroom, and daughters of Lady Ormonde and Lady Mary Fitzwilliam. Sir Simon Lockhart was best man. At the conclusion of the ceremony the bridal party adjourned to 17, Queen-street, Mayfair, where the wedding breakfast was served. Subsequently Lord and Lady Arthur Butler left town for Latimer, Lord Chesham's place in Bucks.

ALARM OF FIRE AT THE NATIONAL LIBERAL CLUB.

At a few minutes before midnight, owing to the density of the smoke issuing from one of the chimneys at the National Liberal Club, an alarm of fire was delivered to the Metropolitan Fire Brigade Office, Scotland-yard. There turned out, however, to be no ground for the belief that the club premises were on fire; but in a few minutes a large number of fire-stations were communicated with, and engine after engine arrived on the scene. The arrival of the engines caused some excitement, and a large crowd collected.

THIS DAY'S RACING.

KEMPTON PARK.

SELLING HUNTERS' FLAT RACE. (Two miles.)—King's County (Mr. Abington), 1. Maid of the Mill (Mr. D. Thirlwell), 2. Miss Pauline g. (Mr. R. Greville), 3. Romsey (Mr. W. Kennedy) and Red Prince (Captain Owen) also started.

BETTING ON THE COURSE.

LINCOLNSHIRE HANDICAP.—7 to 1 agst Fulmen (t and off), 8 to 1 agst Fullerton (t and off), 100 to 7 agst King Monmouth (t and off), 20 to 1 agst Cintra (off).
GRAND NATIONAL STEEPCHASE.—500 to 100 agst Roquefort (t), 9 to 1 agst Spahi (t and w), 10 to 1 agst Why Not (off), 1000 to 60 agst Bellona (off), 500 to 35 agst Ringlet (t; after 1000 to 60 laid).

THIS DAY'S MONEY MARKET.

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

The Stock Markets all open better this morning. Lord Salisbury's speech on Saturday, the apparent indifference with which Russia looks on at the executions in Bulgaria, and the non-delivery of alarmist speeches on the first reading of the German Army Bill, are all regarded as indicating an improvement in the political situation.

Quarter past Two.

The general tone of the Stock Markets is good, as the influence of Lord Salisbury's speech of Saturday is still present; but the public are slow to come in and help speculation. The English Funds are firm on the ease in money, and Home Railways maintain steadiness on the favourable Board of Trade returns issued yesterday evening. The southern Deferred stocks are attracting chief attention in sympathy with the better tone of the Foreign department, where prices of the leading stocks show a slight improvement. American Securities opened firm on yesterday's advance in New York, but prices are not quite at their best points. Grand Trunk of Canada stocks, too, although quoted at an advance, show a slight reaction from the highest prices of the morning. Mexican Railway stocks are firm on the traffic return, which shows gross receipts of £13,000.

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

In the English Funds, Consols for money and the account (April) have advanced $\frac{1}{4}$ to 100 15-16 to 101 1-16 and 101 3-16 to 101 5-16. Reduced and

New Three per Cents. are unchanged at 99 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 100, and New Two-and-a-Half per Cents. at 88 to 88 $\frac{1}{2}$.

In Home Railways, Caledonian has advanced $\frac{1}{4}$, Great Northern A $\frac{1}{4}$, Great Western $\frac{1}{4}$, Brighton A $\frac{1}{4}$, Chatham Ordinary $\frac{1}{4}$, North-Western $\frac{1}{4}$, Metropolitan $\frac{1}{4}$, North British $\frac{1}{4}$, North-Eastern $\frac{1}{4}$, and South-Eastern Deferred $\frac{1}{4}$. In Canadian and Foreign lines, Grand Trunk Second Preference has advanced $\frac{1}{4}$, Canadian Pacific shares $\frac{1}{4}$, Lombardo-Venetian $\frac{1}{4}$, Mexican Ordinary $\frac{1}{4}$, the First Preference $\frac{1}{4}$, and the Second $\frac{1}{4}$.

In Foreign Government Bonds, Brazilian of 1865 has risen $\frac{1}{4}$, Egyptian Unified $\frac{1}{4}$, the Preference $\frac{1}{4}$, the Daira Sanieh $\frac{1}{4}$, French Three per Cent. Rentes $\frac{1}{4}$, Hungarian Gold Rentes $\frac{1}{4}$, Italian of 1861 $\frac{1}{4}$, Mexican of 1864 $\frac{1}{4}$, Peruvian of 1870 $\frac{1}{4}$, Russian of 1873 $\frac{1}{4}$, Spanish Four per Cents. 5-16, Turkish Groups III. and IV. 1-16, the Tribute Loan of 1871 $\frac{1}{4}$, and the Defence $\frac{1}{4}$; but Egyptian State Domain has fallen $\frac{1}{4}$.

In American Securities, New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio First Mortgage Bonds have risen $\frac{1}{4}$, Milwaukee $\frac{1}{4}$, Denver $\frac{1}{4}$, Lake Shore $\frac{1}{4}$, Louisville $\frac{1}{4}$, Erie $\frac{1}{4}$, the Second Mortgage Bonds $\frac{1}{4}$, Ontario $\frac{1}{4}$, Ohio $\frac{1}{4}$, Pennsylvania shares $\frac{1}{4}$, and Reading $\frac{1}{4}$.

The Eastern rates of exchange are:—Bombay, 1s. 59-16d.; Calcutta, 1s. 59-32d.; Hong Kong, 3s. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; and Shanghai, 4s. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

The Hotchkiss Ordinary shares are quoted this morning at a premium of $\frac{3}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$, the Guinness $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$, and the Allsopp $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$.

The Roorkee Foundry and Engineering Company (Limited) has been formed to take over the valuable foundry and engineering works at Roorkee, in the North-West Provinces of India, which for many years have been in successful operation under the Public Works Department of the Government of India. The Government, it is observed, is withdrawing from competition with private enterprise, and in pursuance of this policy has made a contract with the vendors on favourable terms, of which the company will have full benefit. The capital is £80,000, in shares of £5 each, of which 12,000 shares, or £60,000, are now offered to the public. A debenture capital of £50,000 is also offered at 6 per cent.

The half-yearly report of the directors of the Glasgow and South-Western Railway Company shows that the receipts amounted to £535,780, against £532,287 in the previous year, and the expenditure to £273,356, against £275,307. After payment of the dividend already announced, which absorbs £186,108, the balance carried forward is £6,039. There has been a decrease of £3,510 in the coaching and £3,341 in the mineral traffic; but an increase of £10,306 in the goods, making a net increase of £3,495.

ENGLISH GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.				FOREIGN STOCK MARKETS.			
Consols	100 15 16	101 1-16		Argentine Six per Cent. of 1868 ..	101	103	
Ditto Account (April) ..	100 3-16	101 5-16		Ditto Six per Cent. of 1871 ..	100	102	xd
Reduced Three per Cents ..	99 3/4	100	xd	Ditto 6p. Cent. Hard Dol. Bonds ..	7 1/2	7 1/2	
New Three per Cents. ..	99 3/4	100	xd	Austrian Four p. Ct. Gold Rentes ..	86	88	
New Two-and-a-Half per Cents. ..	83	88 1/2		Ditto Five per Cent. Silver ..	62	64	
India Stock Four per Cent. ..	100 1/4	101	xd	Brazilian Five per Cent. of 1865 ..	99	100	
Ditto Three per Cent. ..	85 1/4	85 1/4		Ditto Five per Cent. of 1871 ..	98	97	
Ditto Four per Ct. Rupee Paper ..	70	70 1/2		Ditto Five per Cent. of 1875 ..	93	99	
Ditto 4 1/2 per Ct. Rupee Paper ..	72 1/2	72 1/2		Ditto 4 1/2 per Cent. of 1883 ..	91 1/2	92 1/2	
Bank of England Stock ..	107	107		Buenos Ayres Six per Cent. of 1870 ..	99	101	
Metropolitan 3 1/2 per Cent. ..	106 1/4	106 1/4	xd	Ditto Six per Cents. of 1873 ..	99	101	
COLONIAL GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.				Chilian 4 1/2 per Cent. Converter ..	99	101	
Canada 4 per Cent. of 1910-35 ..	103 1/4	104 1/4		Chinese Sixp. Ct. of 1895, March ..	110	112	
N.S. Wales 4 p. C. of 1903-5-8-9-10 ..	101 1/4	102 1/4		Ditto Sixp. Cent. of 1895, June ..	108	110	
N. Zealand 4 per Ct. Cons. Ins ..	95	96		Costa Rica 5 per Cent. Bonds A ..	6 1/4	6 1/2	
Queensland 6 per Cent. 1891-96 ..	106	118		Ditto B 4 p. Ct. now 5 p. Ct. 1885 ..	59 1/4	60 1/4	
S. Australian 4 p. Ct. of 1894-1916 ..	97	99		Egyptian Three p. Ct. Guarantee ..	97 1/2	97 1/2	xd
Tasmanian 6 per Ct. of 1893-1901 ..	106	120		Ditto Fivep. Ct. State Domain ..	91 1/2	91 1/2	
Victoria 4 1/2 per Cent. of 1904 ..	105	107		Ditto Four per Cent. Unified ..	71 1/2	7 1/2	
AMERICAN SECURITIES.				Ditto Five per Cent. Preference ..	91 1/2	9 1/2	
United States 4 1/2 per Cent. Bonds ..	111 1/4	112 1/4		Ditto Four p. Ct. Daira Sanieh ..	68 1/4	68 1/4	
Ditto Four per Cent. ..	130 1/4	131 1/4		Entre Rios 6 p. Ct. 1886 ..	91	93	
Virginia Funded Bonds ..	55 1/4	55 1/4		Ditto 6 p. Ct. Ry. Mortgage ..	93	94	
New York, Pennsylvania, and ..	47 1/4	47 1/4		French Three per Cent. Rentes ..	78 3/4	79 1/4	
Ohio First Mortgage Bonds ..	37 1/4	37 1/4		Ditto 4 1/2 per Cent. of 1872 ..	106 3/4	10 1/4	
Central Pacific Shares ..	94	94 1/4		Greek Five per Cent. of 1870 ..	71	79	
Chicago Milwaukee, and St. Pac ..	25 1/4	26		Ditto Fivep. Cent. of 1881 ..	59	60	
Denver and Rio Grande Shares ..	132	133		Ditto Five per Cent. of 1884 ..	58 1/4	59 1/4	
Illinois Shares ..	98	98 1/4		Hungarian Gold Rentes of 1881 ..	75 1/4	75 1/4	
Lake Shore and Michigan ..	63 1/4	63 1/4		Italian Five per Cent. of 1861 ..	94 1/4	91 1/4	
Southern 100-dol. Shares ..	115 1/4	116 1/4		Mexican Old Three per Cent. ..	8 1/4	2 1/4	
Louisville and Nashville 100-dol ..	34 1/4	35		Ditto of 1864 ..	71 1/4	12 1/4	
Shares ..	74	75		Norwegian Four per Cent. of 1880 ..	103	104	
New York Central Shares ..	101 1/4	102 1/4		Peruvian Six per Cent. of 1870 ..	75	15 1/4	
New York, Lake Erie, & Western ..	13	18 1/4		Ditto Five per Cent. of 1870 ..	12 1/4	12 1/4	
100-dol. Shares ..	23	28 1/4		Portuguese Three per Cent. ..	53 1/4	53 1/4	
Ditto Preference Six per Cent ..	18 1/4	19		Russian Five per Cent. of 1871 ..	9 1/4	9 1/4	
Ditto Second Mortgage Bonds ..	101 1/4	102 1/4		Ditto Five per Cent. of 1872 ..	92	93	
New York, Ontario, and Western ..	13	18 1/4		Ditto Five per Cent. of 1873 ..	92 1/4	9 1/4	
Shares ..	23	28 1/4		Ditto 4 1/2 per Cent. of 1875 ..	85	87	
Ohio and Mississippi Shares ..	18 1/4	19		Santa Fe 5 p. Ct. N. C. Ry. Mort ..	91	100	
Oregon and California Seven per ..	59 1/4	59 1/4		Ditto 5 p. Ct. Extensions Mort ..	79	91	
Cent. Preference Shares ..	19 1/4	19 1/4		Spanish Four per Cent. ..	63 15-16	64 1-16	
Pennsylvania Shares ..	105	105		Ditto Two per Cent. ..	46 1/4	46 1/4	
Philadelphia and Reading Share ..	60 1/4	60 1/4		Swedish Four per Cent. of 1880 ..	102	104	
Ditto General Mortgage Bonds ..	17 1/4	18 1/4		Turkish Six per Cent. Group 1 ..	20 1/4	21 1/4	
Union Pacific Shares ..	30 1/4	30 1/4		Ditto Nine per Cent. ..	13 1/4	13 1/4	
Wabash, St. Louis, and Pacific ..	97 1/4	97 1/4		Ditto Six & Five per Cent. 3 & 4 ..	13	15 13-16	
Ordinary Shares ..	110 1/4	111 1/4	xd	Ditto 4 1/2 p. Ct. Tribute Loan of 1871 ..	69 1/4	70 1/4	
Ditto 100-dol. Preference ..	114 1/4	115 1/4		Ditto Five per Cent. of 1854 ..	92	94	
BRITISH AND FOREIGN RAILWAY STOCKS.				Ditto Five per Cent. Defence ..	81	8 1/4	
Caledonian ..	97 1/4	97 1/4		Uruguay Unified Five p. Ct. of 1883 ..	48 1/4	49 1/4	
Great Eastern ..	66 1/4	66 1/4		BANKS			
Great Northern Ordinary ..	110 1/4	111 1/4	xd	Anglo-Egyptian ..	16	17	
Ditto A ..	97	97		City ..	18 1/4	19 1/4	
Great Western ..	133 1/4	133 1/4		Colonial ..	29	31	
Lancashire and Yorkshire ..	114	115	xd	Consolidated ..	6 1/4	7 1/4	
London and Brighton Ordinary ..	127	129		Imperial Ottoman ..	9 5-16	9 7-16	
Ditto A ..	114 1/4	115 1/4		London and County ..	81 1/4	82 1/4	
London, Chatham, & Dover Ord ..	22	22 1/4		London and Westminster ..	63	64	
Ditto 4 1/2 per Cent. Preference ..	7 1/4	9 1/4		London Joint Stock ..	36 1/4	37 1/4	
London and North-Western ..	160 1/4	160 1/4		National Provincial (612 paid) ..	46 1/4	50 1/4	
London and South-Western ..	124	125	xd	Union of London ..	35	3	
Manchester, Sheffield, & Lincoln ..	65	67		MINING SHARES			
Ditto A ..	35 1/4	35		Cape Copper ..	22	23	
Metropolitan ..	103 1/4	103 1/4		Indian Consolidated ..	7 1/4	7 1/4	
Metropolitan District ..	38 1/4	38 1/4		Mason and Barry ..	7 1/4	7 1/4	
Midland ..	122 1/4	123 1/4		Montana ..	8 1/4	8 1/4	
North British ..	99 1/4	99 1/4		Mysore Gold ..	6 1/4	6 1/4	
North-Eastern ..	151 1/4	15 1/4		Oreogum Gold ..	13 16	15-16	
North Staffordshire ..	91	92		Richmond Consolidated ..	4	4 1/4	
South-Eastern Ordinary ..	125	126		Rio Tinto ..	10 1-16	10 3-16	
Ditto Deferred ..	103 1/4	104		St. John del Rey ..	25	30	
Grand Trunk of Canada Ordinary ..	13 1/4	13 1/4		Tharsis Sulphur ..	2 1/4	3 1/4	
Ditto First Preference Stock ..	74 1/4	7 1/4		United Mexican ..	2 1/4	3 1/4	
Ditto Second Preference Stock ..	57 1/4	57 1/4		TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE SECURITIES.			
Ditto Third Preference Stock ..	36 1/4	3 1/4		Anglo American ..	11 1/4	38 1/4	
Ditto Guaranteed ..	74 1/4	75 1/4		Brazilian Submarine ..	10 1/4	11	
Canadian Pacific Shares ..	61 1/4	62 1/4		Consolidated Telephone ..	3 1/4	3 1/4	
Buenos Ayres & Pac. 7 p. C. Shares ..	23 1/4	24 1/4		Direct United States ..	8	8 1/4	
Ditto 7 p. C. Debentures ..	126	128		Eastern ..	10 1/4	0 1/4	
Lombardo-Venetian ..	7 1/4	7 1/4		Eastern Extension ..	11 1/4	11 1/4	
Mexican Ordinary ..	5 1/4	5 1/4		Globe Ordinary ..	4 1/4	4 1/4	
Ditto Eight per Cent. First Pref ..	117 1/4	117 1/4		Ditto Preference ..	11 1/4	12	
Ditto Six p. Cent. Second Pref ..	79 1/4	79 1/4		India-rubber, Gutta-percha, ..	no		
Ditto Six per Cent. Perpetual ..	121	123		Telegraph Works ..	21 1/4	22 1/4	
MISCELLANEOUS SHARES.				Oriental Telephone ..	3-15	5-16	
Australian Agricultural ..	117	122	xd	Telegraph Construction ..	37 1/4	38 1/4	
Anglo-Am. Brush Light (63 paid) ..	2 1/4	3		United Telephone ..	12 1/4	12 1/4	
Hudson's Bay ..	22 1/4	22 1/4		Western and Brazilian ..	7 1/4	8	
National Discount ..	10 1/4	11		TRAMWAY SHARES.			
Peninsular and Oriental Steam ..	59	61		Dublin ..	10 1/4	10 1/4	xd
Royal Mail Steam ..	38	40		Glasgow ..	12 1/4	13	xd
Suez Canal ..	77 1/4	78		Liverpool Un. Tram. and Omnibus ..	10 1/4	11 1/4	xd
				London ..	19	19 1/4	
				London Street ..	19 1/4	20 1/4	
				North Metropolitan ..	9 3/4	21 1/4	

THE GERMAN ARMY BILL.

The German Army Bill was read a first time yesterday in the new Reichstag, and it is expected to become law before the end of the week. There was no proposal to refer it, as is usual with most measures, to a Select Committee; and whenever this is the case with a Bill, its almost immediate adoption is certain. The *Times*' correspondent says:—

The sitting lasted little more than an hour and there was no attempt at a regular debate. Prince Bismarck came into the House for a few minutes, but he did not speak, and only shook hands with his friends, and smiled to see the yawning gaps made in the ranks of the Opposition by the late elections. The galleries were all well filled by people eager to hear the Chancellor should he again take the opportunity of delivering himself on the subject of the European situation. But the oracle remained mute, and the only official word of political importance fell from the lips of the War Minister, who asked the House to forget bygones, and only look to the future, "of which," he said, "the gravity can be mistaken by no one." What was now wanted was not a discussion of the measure, for that had already been well thrashed out, but a prompt, unanimous, and significant vote on it. He was followed by Herr von Bennigsen, chief of the National Liberals, now the strongest party in the Reichstag, who spoke much in the same sense, dwelling on the essentially national character of the Army Bill and on the necessity of passing it without further debate or delay. He was most warmly cheered by the dense and devoted majority sitting behind his back. The Clerical leader, Dr. Windthorst, repeated his scruples as to the element of time in the Army Bill, but reserved the more detailed exposition of the attitude of his party till the second reading, when all the members returned by the test ballots would be in their seats. On behalf of his dismembered party, the Liberals, Herr Richter intimated, amid peals of mocking laughter on the Right, that his attitude to the measure was just the same as before, in token whereof he would table a Bill for reducing the Septennate to a Triennate. Herr Singer, a Socialist representative of one of the Berlin constituencies, showed that his fraction—now less than its former self by more than one-half—still adhered to its resolution not to vote a single man or groschen more, but his denunciations of electoral swindling and oppression were lost in the hum of jarring voices.

THE SITUATION IN BURMA.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

MANDALAY, March 8.—General Stewart has vacated the command of the Fifth Brigade, and is about to proceed to India to take command of the Hyderabad contingent. General White has left for Woontho to establish military posts along the frontier.

(CENTRAL NEWS TELEGRAM.)

BOMBAY, Tuesday.—The news which arrives here from Burma is of a conflicting nature. Following the intelligence of yesterday that the Woontho Tsawbwa had submitted to British rule, a telegram reaches here this morning from Mandalay announcing the very opposite fact. According to this later message, Mr. Burgess's mission has been a failure, and General White is leaving Mandalay to-day with 500 troops for Woontho.

Dacoity continues, and experienced officers express the fear that a general outbreak will take place during the rainy season. Though the Government do not share this pessimistic view, they do not ignore the possibility of difficulties arising.

NEWS FROM SOUTH AFRICA.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)

CAPE TOWN, Feb. 16 (via Plymouth).—A poll of ratepayers taken on the question of the erection of a new town hall here at a cost of £50,000, to commemorate the Queen's Jubilee, has resulted in the proposal being negatived by an overwhelming majority. Other proposals are now being made, but nothing definite has been decided upon. The Colonial Secretary, speaking to his constituents at Uitenhage, has announced that it is the intention of the Government to introduce a Bill next session for extending the Kimberley Railway to a point on the Vaal River. Further extensions of railway from the colony to the borders of the Free State would greatly depend upon the views of the latter State. He also intimated that a Minister would shortly visit the interior States with the hope of bringing about a better understanding on the question of Customs duties. Everything in Pondoland is reported to be very quiet. The chief Umquikela has ratified the agreement entered into with the Cape Government, and the compensation-money awarded to the Pondos in the recent settlement has been handed over to him.

PIETERMARITZBURG, Feb. 16.—A proposal for the erection of a new town hall here in honour of the Queen's Jubilee has been rejected in favour of an open-air luncheon to all children of this city, together with a display of fireworks and the presentation of a Jubilee medal to each juvenile planter of a tree. One of the natives charged with committing an outrage on a young European woman has been sentenced to twenty years' penal servitude and to receive fifty lashes.

M. DE LESSEPS'S VISIT TO BERLIN.

M. Ferdinand de Lesseps leaves Paris to-day for Berlin. The Paris correspondent of the *Standard* says:—

M. de Lesseps informs me that the object of his journey is to carry to M. Herbet, the French Ambassador in Germany, the insignia of the Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour conferred on him last January. It was, perhaps, natural that M. de Lesseps's trip to Berlin should have given rise to the report that he had been entrusted with a diplomatic mission; but such is not the case. The French Government were anxious to prove to M. Herbet its high sense of approval of the admirable manner in which he has discharged his duties during a critical period in regard to the relations of France and Germany. M. de Lesseps was glad to seize the opportunity of giving pleasure to a man whom he has known since the time he was a child. M. de Lesseps assures me that he will refrain, when at Berlin, from speaking on political subjects. He states that the Empress of Germany has done him the honour to request him to attend her reception on Wednesday, and that he will also see Count Herbert Bismarck, whose acquaintance he made when he was at the German Embassy in London.

At the end of the week M. Herbet will give a dinner and hold a reception in honour of M. de Lesseps, who has also been invited to be present at a special meeting of the Ethnographical Society.

REPORTED MURDER OF AN ENGLISHMAN IN CORSICA.

The *France* announces that a private telegram has been received from Calvi reporting that Colonel Rod, the English manager of an argentiferous lead mining company in Corsica, has been murdered by Italians. An inquiry has been opened.

THE QUEEN.

"Atlas" in the *World* writes:—The Queen has a great dislike to being committed to engagements far in advance, and therefore no public intimation has yet been made of any special Court movements during the Jubilee year; but I have reason to believe that her Majesty's trip to Birmingham the week after next will be followed later in the season by visits to Manchester, Glasgow, and Edinburgh, and it is possible that the Queen may also pass a day at Bradford. It is practically settled that her Majesty will visit Portsmouth in July, for the purpose of laying the foundation-stone of a new church at Kingston.

THE EGYPTIAN QUESTION.

Sir H. Drummond Wolff had another conference yesterday afternoon with the Ottoman delegates, their deliberations lasting about an hour and a half. The British representative (the Constantinople correspondent of the *Standard* says) expressed satisfaction at the good disposition which was shown by the Imperial Government in their desire to arrive at an understanding. There was a very friendly conversation on the several points of the English Memorandum. Another meeting will be held on Thursday.

THE ILLNESS OF MR. BEECHER.

The Reverend Henry Ward Beecher was yesterday unconscious, and was gradually sinking, there being no hope of his recovery. The members of his family are at the bedside.

MR. CHAPLIN AND THE IRISH QUESTION.

Mr. Chaplin, writing to the Holland-Fen Conservative Association, observes:—"The Government is now confronted with many difficulties, and chief among them a state of lawless violence and social disorganization in Ireland with which the ordinary law cannot cope. To grapple with this danger some reform of the rules of procedure of the House of Commons has become necessary, in face of the obstruction always offered by a certain section of that assembly to measures calculated to maintain law and order in Ireland, and by the melancholy fact that now for the first time in history apologists of public plunder and lawless violence are found among the ranks of one of the great English parties."

DEATH OF A MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT.

Mr. Thomas Watson, member for the Ilkeston Division of Derbyshire, died at his residence, Horse Carrs, Rochdale, at eight o'clock last night. Mr. Watson was present at the opening of Parliament, but returned home two days later in ill-health. Since that time he has been gradually sinking. Mr. Watson, who was born in Lancashire in 1823, was originally a working silk-weaver, but he had amassed a large fortune as a silk-spinner and hat-cloth maker at Rochdale. He presented Rochdale with an infirmary, and built two chapels, besides making other large benefactions to the town. The deceased was a Gladstonian Liberal, and had sat for the Ilkeston Division since 1885. His majority at the last election was 262.

THE COLONIAL AND INDIAN ATLAS OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE.

We have received from Messrs. W. and A. K. Johnston, of Edinburgh, an atlas which contains over fifty clearly drawn maps comprising the whole of the dominions of the British Empire. The maps are accompanied with historical and geographical notes concerning each possession of the Crown. The atlas forms a most useful guide to any one desirous of understanding the magnitude and importance of "Greater Britain."

THE WEATHER.

The weather forecast issued from the Meteorological Office for the twenty-four hours ending at noon to-morrow says that in the south of England, including London and the Channel, we may expect easterly winds, light; cloudy, misty.

At noon to-day, Negretti and Zambra's barometer in the office of the *St. James's Gazette* marked 30.20. The reading yesterday was 30.26.

The Budget, it is understood, will be brought forward on Monday, the 4th of April.

It is stated that the Prime Minister has undertaken to adjudicate upon the matters at issue between the Postmaster-General and the officials of the Post Office.

Mr. Goschen had a long interview with Lord Salisbury yesterday afternoon, at the Foreign Office, prior to the meeting of Parliament. Subsequently the Prime Minister gave audiences to the Italian, German, and Russian Ambassadors.

Mr. A. J. Balfour, the new Chief Secretary for Ireland, has resigned the position of President of the Royal Commission on the Gold and Silver Currency. The meeting of the Commissioners summoned for to-day has therefore been adjourned *sine die*.

Mr. Akers-Douglas, the senior Conservative Whip, had a prolonged consultation with Lord Hartington yesterday afternoon.

Mr. J. E. Vernon, D.L., the "lay" member of the Irish Land Commission appointed in 1881 to administer the Land Act then passed, died yesterday. Mr. Vernon was also agent for Lord Pembroke's large estate in the suburbs of Dublin.

It is stated that the Government do not intend to take any steps for the present in fulfilment of Mr. W. H. Smith's intimation to Mr. E. Robertson, that they would appoint a Committee to inquire into the question of grants to the royal family. It is intended, however, that the investigation shall take place before application is made to Parliament for another grant.

Mr. Goschen is to be entertained at a banquet at the Criterion Restaurant on the 30th of April. Lord Salisbury and all the other Cabinet Ministers are expected to be present, as well as the majority of the other members of the Government.

The new wing of the Wandsworth Public Library, including a fine reading-room, which has just been completed at a cost of nearly £2,000, will be formally opened by the Baroness Burdett-Coutts on Saturday afternoon.

The death was announced at Manchester yesterday of Mr. Edward Hecht, the well-known pianist and musical conductor. Mr. Hecht was for many years associated with Mr. Charles Halle's famous choir as joint conductor, and was the author of some well-known compositions for the pianoforte.

MESSRS. HATCHARD, 187, PICCADILLY, W., keep a large Stock of all the New, Standard, and Children's Books, Bibles, Prayer-Books, &c. Discount 3d. in the 1s. Libraries arranged.—[ADVT.]

THE BULGARIAN INSURRECTION. ATTITUDE OF RUSSIA.

Captain Bolmann, the Russian who was among the insurgents condemned to death by the court-martial at Rustchuk, was yesterday handed over to the German Consul, and was immediately sent across the Danube to Giurgevo. The German Consul addressed a note to the authorities, informing them that he had received instructions to demand that the persons of Lieutenant-Colonel Filoff, Major Panoff, and Sub-Lieutenant Kessimoff should be consigned to his charge, as being Russian subjects. Major Panoff had already been shot; Colonel Filoff, owing to his wounds, has not yet been tried; and Lieutenant Kessimoff is also awaiting his trial. The authorities aver that the two latter are, beyond question, Bulgarian subjects. Yesterday morning 300 recruits of the Sapper battalion who took part in the revolt were paraded before Major Petroff, the military commandant, who, after sternly reprimanding them for their conduct, announced to them in the name of the Government and of their country that they were pardoned. Most of these men have only served six weeks, and steps have been taken to distribute them in various other regiments. The court-martial is trying the remaining conspirators, consisting chiefly of non-commissioned officers of Sappers.

At Philippopolis (the *Standard's* correspondent says) the news of the prompt trial and execution of the Rustchuk conspirators has been received with the utmost satisfaction.

All the information that has come to light tends to show that the plot was of a very widespread and dangerous character. The rising was to have been simultaneous in the two Bulgarias, and the date fixed was the anniversary of San Stefano; but fortunately Silistria and Rustchuk "went off" a little prematurely, and spoiled the plan, which is evidently that hinted at in the anonymous letters received by officers of the garrison here, of which I spoke in my telegram of the 8th of February. The hand of Russia is very plainly visible in the affair, as in so many previous troubles with which this unfortunate country has been afflicted. The Colonel Filoff who organized the Rustchuk rising is the same with whom General Kaulbars had prolonged conferences when he was in Rustchuk. He received his instructions from Captains Bendereff and Dimitreff, at Bucharest, who, in turn, were in direct communication with St. Petersburg.

The news of the execution of the rebel officers is reported to have made a profound sensation in Russia, where the incident is regarded as adding immensely to the gravity and difficulty of the situation. The paper rouble (the St. Petersburg correspondent of the *Standard* says) has fallen to 21½; and not only in commercial circles is this decisive step on the part of the Regency regarded as likely to lead to European complications. If the Russian accomplices of the attempted revolution had been shot, intervention of some sort would have been inevitable; as it is, the cry from Moscow will doubtless be very strong. This, of course, is only natural, considering that the rebels were encouraged by Slavophil committees, who look to M. Katkoff as their leader; and the latter may well feel himself responsible in some measure for their fate. Facts so far are, however, against the supposition that Russia will attempt to occupy the principality at present. Prince Lobanoff, for instance, has been received by the Emperor, and is to remain here for some weeks.

Referring to the execution of the conspirators, the *Moscow Gazette* glorifies the memory of those who, it declares, have been massacred while, without any personal interest and as witnesses of duty and truth, protesting like men against the unhappy and ignominious state of their country and against its oppressors and betrayers. Their honourable death will, says the *Gazette*, bring forth events and set history in motion. The journal expresses indignation that it should have been possible for the "murders" to have been committed under the eyes of civilized Europe, and if not directly and openly, still with the secret approval of its Governments. In conclusion, the *Gazette* says:—"We shall not forget that these men fell a sacrifice to their devotion to Russia, thereby giving proof of the strong ties which bind their nation to this country."

Trustworthy advices received in Vienna from St. Petersburg state that the members of the war party about the person of the Czar are working assiduously to turn the late events in Bulgaria to account with the view of inducing the Emperor to adopt a policy of action. His Majesty has, however, positively set his face against such a policy hitherto.

M. Hitrovo, the Russian Minister at Bucharest, who is credited with being deeply concerned in the insurrection, at a private soirée given at Bucharest expressed himself in very violent terms against the Bulgarian Regency, whose proceedings he characterized as infamous.

In Berlin and Vienna the news of the execution of the conspirators has been received with approval or indifference. It is remarked as a curious symptom, however, that with hardly an exception the French press sympathizes, not with the efforts of the Bulgarians to achieve independence, but with the efforts of the Russian Government to reduce their country to the enslaved condition of a Russian province. The very journals which are loudest in their denunciations of Germany for annexing Alsace and Lorraine think it simply monstrous that the Bulgarians should refuse to pass under the yoke of Russia.

THE BOARD OF TRADE RETURNS.

The Board of Trade returns for February show the following results: Imports £28,513,994, being an increase compared with the same month last year of £1,892,125. The totals for the two months were £59,561,416, being an increase of £4,256,508 compared with the corresponding period last year. The exports for February were £17,255,153, being an increase of £871,126 compared with February of 1886. The total exports for the two months were £35,063,868, being an increase on same period last year of £1,467,080. These returns seem to prove that the revival of trade has at last become an accomplished fact. Coming to details, it will be seen that this year there has been an increase in the value of imports under seven heads and a decrease under four heads. The items of increase are: Articles of food and drink (duty free), £1,883,922; dutiable articles of food and drink, £114,655; metals, £224,855; oils, £143,201; raw materials for textile manufactures, £2,441,302; manufactured articles, £424,797; and "miscellaneous articles," £18,548. On the other hand, there is a comparative decrease of £60,559 in the value of living animals (for food) imported this year; £121,100 on tobacco, £434,392 on chemicals, dyestuffs, and tanning substances; and £378,721 on raw materials for "sundry industries and manufactures." A considerable part of the increase in the value of the imports is attributable to the increased imports of articles of food and drink. With regard to the exports, there is an increase in the export of manufactured articles. The exports of yarns and textile fabrics during the last two months were valued at £18,860,737, against £17,791,775 last year, the increase in favour of the present year being thus no less than £1,068,962. The other items of increase shown this year by a comparison with the returns for the first two months of last year are: Living animals, £18,423; raw materials, £43,875; metals and articles manufactured therefrom (except machinery), £133,788; and machinery and mill-work, £280,707. The items of comparative decrease are: Articles of food and drink, £20,563; apparel

and articles of personal use, £15,151; chemicals, and chemical and medicinal preparations, £32,433; and "all other articles, either manufactured or partly manufactured," £10,528. These figures show that the items of decrease in the aggregate amount to less than £80,000, while the net increase is close upon a million and a half sterling.

LIBERAL MEMBERS AND THE PUBLIC EXPENDITURE.

A meeting of the Liberal Members' Committee on Public Expenditure was held in one of the Committee-rooms of the House of Commons yesterday afternoon to consider the course to be adopted in furtherance of their objects. Mr. Wignworth presided, and about thirty members attended. It was decided to appoint four sub-committees to examine and report on the different classes of the Estimates, with a view to their systematic and thorough discussion. The selection of these sub-committees was left to a fifth sub-committee appointed by the meeting, it being understood that the members chosen should, as far as possible, be specialists in the respective subjects submitted to their consideration. The Estimates were classified as follows for examination by sub-committees:—(1) Army, (2) Navy, (3) Civil Service.

EXTRAORDINARY OCCURRENCE ON BOARD A SHIP.

An inquest was held at Gravesend yesterday on the body of a Swede named Franz Theodore Drischel, who died at the Gravesend Hospital, where he had been under treatment for a fortnight. The deceased was landed in a waterman's boat from the outward-bound ship *Aladdin*, the captain sending a letter to the following effect:—"Please admit the bearer into the hospital. He has been found aboard this ship, but he is not on the articles, and I will not be responsible for any charge incurred." The man, when admitted, could not move and could only murmur the word "water." On the following day he recovered consciousness and stated that he was verbally engaged as steward on the *Aladdin*. On the 10th of February, while carrying a load to the store-room, he fell down the ladder and lay in the store-room until discovered eight days later when the vessel arrived off Gravesend. He believed that while in the store-room he managed to reach some sugar and lime-juice, but he had nothing else to eat or drink the whole of the time. During his incarceration he heard people near him, but he could not attract their attention, as he was unable to call out, neither could he move. When admitted to the hospital it was found that he was suffering from gangrene. A week after his admission his legs were amputated below the knees to prevent the gangrene from spreading; but he died on Saturday from exhaustion and secondary hemorrhage. It was stated that the deceased was of intemperate habits, and that when the *Aladdin* was in the Victoria Docks, London, he was lying on the deck in a state of intoxication. The coroner remarked that the letter sent by the captain to the hospital authorities showed a feeling of indifference as to what became of the man; and the jury, in returning a verdict in accordance with the medical testimony, expressed the opinion that the captain was deserving of censure.

FREAKS BY MILITARY STUDENTS.

Some curious details were given yesterday afternoon at Steyning, near Brighton, in connection with two sets of summonses heard against eight military students, taken out by Mr. James West, principal of an establishment for the preparation of students for Sandhurst and Woolwich, against pupils at a similar establishment at Storrington, of which the Reverend G. Faithfull is the head. The first summonses charged four students with breaking two windows. The defendants, it appears, went to the complainant's house at two o'clock in the morning, and aroused him by violently ringing the bell. Later in the morning two large panes of glass were found broken. The defendants, however, apologized, paid the damage, and promised that it should never occur again, and complainant condoned the offence; but a few nights afterwards seven of Mr. Faithfull's students got inside the complainant's premises and created a disturbance in a lecture-room. On the complainant going to the room the lights were put out, and in the darkness the complainant fell over some furniture which had been piled in the doorway. In the morning several windows were found to have been painted green. They also had objectionable words upon them. The students again apologized, but the apology was not accepted. The first set of summonses was dismissed. In the second set each defendant was fined 40s. and costs, with damages, the total amounting to £20 10s. All the defendants were also bound over to keep the peace.

SUPPRESSION OF BETTING IN FRANCE.

After a considerable discussion between the French Minister of the Interior, the Prefect of Police, and the Municipal Council of Paris, it has been decided to prohibit bookmakers from having stands on French racecourses. The Paris Municipality being proprietor of the metropolitan racecourses, the Prefect of the Seine, acting in its name and in accord with the instructions he has received from the Minister of the Interior, is legally to notify to the sporting societies which hold concessions for the racecourses that they are to prevent for the future the bookmakers from putting up their stands. It appears that the societies have already expressed their willingness to comply with this demand on condition that the public authorities place at their disposal the necessary police force to compel the bookmakers to quit. As the legal notification is to be made at once, the first attempt to suppress the bookmakers will probably be made at the Auteuil races next Sunday.

OLYMPIA.

There was a change of programme at Olympia yesterday, when the stag-hunt was withdrawn. The programme now includes a junior Derby, ridden by eight little jockeys; a race of Arabian steeds, in the fashion of the Corso à Rome; an Olympian race, the rider standing on two barebacked horses; a hurdle race, an obstacle race, a flat race ridden by lady jockeys, and the chariot races. The performance of a troupe of Arab acrobats is remarkable for the marvellous leaps and somersaults of the performers, and for the astonishing contortions of their bodies while in the air. One member of this troupe turned four somersaults before touching the ground. Six elephants perform some remarkable feats, and there are some interesting Roman games.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

FLORILINE—For the Teeth and Breath—Is the best Liquid Dentifrice in the world; it thoroughly cleanses partially decayed teeth from all parasites or living "animalcules," leaving them pearly white, imparting a delightful fragrance to the breath. The Fragrant Floriline removes instantly all odours arising from a foul stomach or tobacco-smoke; being partly composed of honey, soda, and extracts of sweet herbs and plants, it is perfectly delicious to the taste, and as harmless as sherry. Sold by Chemists and Perfumers everywhere, at 2s. 6d. per bottle.

The ST. JAMES'S GAZETTE may be ordered of all newsvendors and booksellers in town and country, or by subscription from the Office. Terms (payable in advance):—For Three Months, 9s. 9d.; Six Months, 19s. 6d.; Twelve Months, 39s. Post-office orders (to be made payable at the Post Office, Ludgate-circus) should be addressed to E. SOUTH-COTT, St. James's Gazette Office, Whitefriars, E.C. The SPECIAL EDITION on SATURDAYS ONLY (posted in time for delivery in the Country on Sunday Morning) forwarded for 6s. 6d. per annum to any part of the United Kingdom.

THE PLAN OF CAMPAIGN.

VIOLENT SPEECH BY MR. O'BRIEN.

Mr. W. O'Brien, editor of *United Ireland*, addressed a secretly organized meeting at Inchiquin, near Youghal, on Sunday. The parish priest presided. The object of the demonstration was to encourage the tenantry on the Ponsonby estate to carry on the Plan of Campaign adopted by them, notwithstanding the formation of a company to work on commercial principles the farms from which they have been evicted. Addressing the tenantry, Mr. O'Brien said:—

It is not Mr. Ponsonby that we are to fight, but it is the gang of conspirators and landowners in Cork, who have all the old bad instincts of landlordism and the incorrigible hatred of the Irish people still burning like a smouldering volcano within them, if they dared to show it. It is they who want battle and war to the knife; it is they who are supplying the funds for Emergency men and bankruptcy proceedings; it is they who are instigating Judge Boyd to outrage your parish priest and chase him through the country with policemen and with bailiffs, and, as he himself said, to attempt to drag him, your venerable and beloved pastor, into the witness chair as a spy and an informer against his own oppressed and unfortunate people. We have spared those men up to the present; but nothing will teach those men, nothing will soften their black and bitter hearts within them, and I tell them here to-day that they will rue the day that they ever meddled as fomenters of discord and injustice on this estate. The Ides of March are approaching. The 25th of March is near; another gale day is upon them. I tell them here publicly, that if one hair of Father Kelleher's head is injured or if one of the homes on the Ponsonby estate is unroofed that we will throttle them at their own rent-offices. We will meet them and kindle a blaze about their ears that will make them at all events appreciate the suffering that they are wantonly and wickedly attempting to inflict upon the people of the estate who never harmed them. I ask every Nationalist in this county of Cork from this day forth to mark every man who allies himself with this band of priest-hunters in Cork, who attends their meetings, or who subscribes to their funds, and mark him well, and draw a ring of fire around every man of them—a circle of excommunication—boycott them; stop their hunting. Do not deal in the same shop with them. Make them feel every hour of the day and every moment of their lives that they themselves have proclaimed war—a war of extermination—on the people, and that they themselves bear the guilt and the brand of the exterminator on their brows.

Referring to the service of a summons on Father Kelleher to attend the Bankruptcy Court and give evidence in connection with the receipt of the rents under the Plan of Campaign from the Ponsonby tenants, at which the reverend gentleman was present, Mr. O'Brien said:—

I denounce Judge Boyd's part in this whole transaction as a scandal and a usurpation, and I declare to you here to-day that it is an outrage upon every principle of free government if he should do anything of the kind; and, what is more than that, I tell you that every lover of freedom throughout the world will cry "God bless you and God bless Father Kelleher!" if you ignore the jurisdiction of this judicial bully and usurper; if you trample upon his summonses, if you wipe your boots with them, as Mr. Davitt did the other day at Loughrea with the Lord-Lieutenant's proclamation, and I say "God bless you." Put Judge Boyd's summonses behind the fire with Mr. Ponsonby's writs. The game is in our hands. What is more, the rent is in our hands. I can promise that if Judge Boyd were to cross-examine us with hot pincers one penny of that money he would never get until Mr. Ponsonby comes back to the frame of mind in which he was three weeks ago, and until he casts off the evil advisers and the devil's attorneys who are egging him on to destruction.

PORTUGAL AND ZANZIBAR.

It is reported from Berlin that the Sultan of Zanzibar has solicited English and German mediation in his quarrel with Portugal, and his request has been acceded to by Lord Salisbury and Prince Bismarck.

ARMY EXPENDITURE.

A Supplementary Estimate has been issued, showing that £459,000 will be required to be voted by the House of Commons to meet expenditure for army services during the year ended 31st inst., not provided for in the Estimates last year. The contribution due by the Egyptian Government in respect of the British army of occupation has been applied in settlement of claims for certain extraordinary services of the Egyptian army undertaken in 1885 and 1886 under the authority of the British Commander-in-Chief in Egypt. This arrangement has caused a deficiency of £150,000 in the vote for Appropriations in Aid. Sufficient provision was not made in the original estimate for the store establishments requisite at Woolwich and in Egypt, and £35,000 has to be voted on this account. A sum of £200,000 is needed chiefly in consequence of extra demands from the navy; but the vote includes £10,000 for new accoutrements for the militia for this year's training and a payment for vessels under contract falling over from 1885-86. Upon Vote 13 a further sum of £44,000 is required; it includes £8,400 for the extension of the Nile Railway, £7,200 for defence works on the Nile, and £24,300 for hut accommodation in the Soudan, necessary in consequence of the hot season. A sum of £30,000 is also to be voted as an instalment of £110,000 agreed to be paid for the Brennan torpedo. The total of the original Army Estimates was £18,233,200, which is now increased to £18,692,200.

REPORTING DIVORCE CASES.

A circular has been sent to members of Parliament, signed by a number of members of the House, pointing out the desirability of some restriction being placed upon the publication of offensive details of divorce cases, and stating that the time has arrived when the attention of Parliament should be called to the question. A considerable number of members have already signified their willingness to support the movement.

A memorial to the Lord Chancellor is in circulation, to be signed by laymen only, praying his lordship to take such steps as he may think necessary to regulate the reporting of divorce cases, for the purpose of checking the scandal which has arisen from the publication of the minute details of the evidence.

EXTRAORDINARY AFFRAY AT A BOAT-RACE.

The *Melbourne Argus* of the 27th of January says:—At the Lake Bathurst Regatta, New South Wales, a disgraceful scene occurred between the scullers Matterson and Kemp. They were competing in the outrigger race. Kemp was leading, and Matterson, in trying to pass him, fouled Kemp's boat. Kemp alleges that Matterson caught hold of his boat and smashed a hole in the deck; but Matterson declared that he only pushed the boat, as Kemp purposely blocked his way. However, Kemp struck Matterson in the back with his fist and smashed his boat so badly that it sank, and Matterson had to swim to land. On arriving at the boat-shed, Kemp, who was waiting for Matterson, struck him and broke his nose.

DEATH OF AN EMINENT OCULIST.

Professor Ferdinand Arit, one of the most celebrated ophthalmists of Europe, died in Vienna yesterday. He was born in 1812, and was appointed professor of Vienna University in 1856. During the past thirty years he has operated on many thousands of cases of cataract and other diseases of the eye.

THE EARTHQUAKE IN THE RIVIERA.

The following is from a correspondent who has had some experience of the earthquake in the Riviera. It is dated Bordighera, March 4:—

You will have seen accounts in the paper of the earthquake here. We suffered less than many about us; but had to be two nights out of doors. I wish you would tell people the danger of coming to the Riviera till the houses are made safe. It would save many from danger and anxiety. I daily observe the way in which wholly dilapidated buildings are patched up to look uninjured; huge splits filled with rubbish, cracks in walls plastered, woodwork painted to make believe. Bordighera was less hurt than some places; but even here many houses are levelled to the ground, or so demolished as to be uninhabitable. To-day I hear that an invalid clergyman, who found this climate the best he has tried in ten years, has given up the idea of staying here, and intends doing all he can to induce others to avoid the Riviera. Now this place was nearly the centre of the disturbance; it was far worse a few miles west and east. Mentone is a ruin, but nothing to Diano Marina and thereabout. The number of the dead is not yet known, but will exceed 3,000. Colonel — went on Wednesday to Diano Marina and was so horrified by the sights he saw that he will not describe them. Many who were not killed at once, died on removal and in hospital. I yesterday saw one of the best villa houses here with both staircases ruined and not a room intact. Strange, to relate I noticed here a very fine stucco and panelled ceiling uninjured. The owner and all the servants occupied huts in the garden. Our very strong house shook and rattled, and the plaster came down. Some of the main inside walls are split, but the outer walls only bulged in or out. I want invalids warned not to come here till the houses are restored. Two of the largest hotels here are closed and must be entirely rebuilt.

The Lord Mayor has received a letter, dated the 28th of February, from General Sir Montague M'Murdo, K.C.B., from Alassio, in the Riviera, confirming the telegram of Mr. Eugene Schuyler (late United States Minister at Athens) as to the distress consequent upon the earthquake at Diano Marina, Cervo, Alassio, and elsewhere. Sir Montague states that while he resides on the spot he will take charge of and administer, in conjunction with others, any relief that may be sent for places within his reach, say from Porto Maurizio to Noli. The inhabitants of Alassio numbered about 5,000. Their lofty antiquated houses, shut up within an old wall built against the Tunis pirates of former times, are intersected by the narrowest of streets. Many of these are completely wrecked. The remainder, being more or less shattered, are dangerous to approach, and the town is therefore for the present uninhabitable. Casualties were comparatively few on the morning of the 23rd ult., and he attributed this immunity to the early habits of the industrial population; but the suffering of the survivors was not thereby lessened. The Syndic informed him that out of the 5,000 sufferers, 2,000 were absolutely destitute of means. Tents and planks for huts were coming, but the people were still huddled in corners under frail and pervious shelters. The little community of English and Americans at Alassio are doing their best to aid the municipality in its present most urgent needs; but the other towns mentioned did not possess even that small advantage.

Italian residents in Great Britain are informed that the Italian Chamber of Commerce in London has opened, under the patronage of Count Corti, the Italian Ambassador in London, and Baron Heath, Consul-General for Italy in London, a subscription on behalf of the victims of the late earthquake in Italy. Subscriptions will be received by any of the members of the committee, the London and County Bank (to the account of the Italian Earthquake Fund) Lombard-street, and all its branches; the Italian Consulate, 31, Old Jewry, E.C.; or at the offices of the Italian Chamber of Commerce, Winchester House, 50, Old Broad-street, E.C.

THE STATE OF IRELAND.

The police stationed at Knocknagoshel, county Kerry, on returning to their barracks at an early hour yesterday morning after seven hours patrolling the surrounding country, heard four shots fired in their neighbourhood. On inquiring into the cause they found that the houses of two farmers named Dore and Mangan had just been forcibly entered by seven disguised men, armed with guns and revolvers. At both houses shots were fired, one of these being discharged through a window of the room in which Mangan's servant was sleeping, and a portion of the charge lodged in the wall close to his head. The police, on their way to the place, arrested two brothers named Keane and a man named Sullivan. In Sullivan's possession they found two large revolvers and some ammunition. The prisoners were brought before a magistrate and remanded.

An extraordinary case of boycotting is reported from Clifden in connection with the appointment of the Reverend Richard Goodison by the Bishop of Tuam as successor to the late Dr. Cory. In consequence of Mr. Goodison's connection with the Irish Church Mission Society, a large number of the Protestants of Clifden abstained from attending service on Sunday, as a protest against the action of the Bishop in appointing an agent of the mission to the rectorship in opposition to their wishes.

The report of the capture of a police patrol in the county of Clare has, it is stated, no foundation.

ACCIDENTS IN THE HUNTING-FIELD.

Mr. Benjamin Wainman, of Harrogate and Leeds, fell from his horse and broke his neck whilst hunting yesterday afternoon with the Bramham Moor hounds near Weeton Station. His horse stepped upon a stone and fell. The deceased gentleman was about eighty years of age, and one of the oldest members of the hunt. Mr. Moorsom, Lord Harewood's steward, met with a serious accident at about the same time. While hunting with the Bicester Hounds, near Croughton, yesterday afternoon, Lord Rodney's horse swerved at a fence and threw his lordship, who fell heavily upon his head. He was picked up unconscious, and removed to the residence of Mr. John Tubbs, of Pimlico. His lordship only recovered consciousness this morning. The Honourable John Fitzwilliam, member for Peterborough, has been thrown whilst hunting with the Fitzwilliam hounds. His collar bone was broken.

A "FIND" IN TIMBER.

A French Vice-Consul sends home some particulars respecting a kind of timber which is found in the forests of the Caucasus, and which possesses some remarkable properties. The wood is of a very beautiful colour, and the longer it is exposed to the air the harder it becomes. It is three times as heavy as oak, is not difficult to work, and does not rot. About 1,000 poods could be brought into the market in Germany at one rouble per pood.

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

A TYPICAL LYNCHING CASE.

In *Macmillan's Magazine* Mr. A. H. Paterson tells an exciting tale of a typical lynching case in which he himself took an active part some years since. He fixes the scene of action at Toros City, in New Mexico; but warns us that this name is fictitious, as well as those of the citizens to whom he introduces us. Shortly after five o'clock, on a sultry July afternoon, the jury, which had been engaged all day in the court-house of Toros City, trying a criminal case of considerable interest, adjourned to a private room in the hotel or tavern hard by for refreshment. The foreman then proceeded to business. "Gentlemen of the jury," he began, "I understand you to be unanimously of opinion that Sam Cobbett and Jim Grobe, accused by Tom Hanson of the murder of his brother Edward, are—"

"Not guilty," burst simultaneously from the eleven jurymen addressed by their foreman, who was fairly taken aback by a verdict directly in the teeth of the evidence. Nevertheless, he bowed to the will of the majority, and, when they got back into court, he stood up and faced the people boldly, giving a verdict of "Not guilty" in a loud and emphatic tone. The foreman's conscience told him that the verdict was wrong, but it was useless for him to fight against his eleven colleagues. It subsequently transpired that they and the judge had been bribed by the two murderers—a not uncommon occurrence when there is money in the hands of the accused and little in those of the men appointed to try him. Vengeance was not long in coming. The oldest inhabitant of the little town was Joseph Cartwright, a man universally respected, and an intimate friend of Edward Hanson, the victim. As Mr. Paterson walked away from the court-house, amazed and outraged at the verdict, he fell in with Cartwright, who had been very kind to him when he first struck Toros City, "a raw tenderfoot," some ten years before. "Mr. Cartwright," he asked, "what on earth does this mean? These men are guilty. The jury must be mad." Mr. Cartwright's answer was pitched in a very quiet key, but in a few moments Mr. Paterson saw him shaking hands with Mike Allison, the wildest character of the settlement, and divined that mischief was brewing. As they approached Cartwright's house, the latter invited them both to supper, and they soon found themselves seated at a long deal table. Around it were placed Mr. and Mrs. Cartwright, Mr. Paterson, Mike Allison, the desperado Tom Hanson, brother of the murdered man, and three other guests, ranchmen from the neighbourhood. When supper was over and Mrs. Cartwright had left the room, Tom Hanson rose and addressed "the crowd." "A week ago," he said, "my brother Edward was shot. To-day two men have been tried for the murder—and acquitted. Now, some say this is justice; some say not. There are folk who believe Cobbett and Grobe should be hung. Gentlemen, I want you to fix this matter as you think right." The speaker ended by proposing that Joseph Cartwright be chosen as judge. Accepting the responsible post with much quiet dignity, Cartwright rose and reviewed the evidence given that day in the court-house. As stated by Cartwright in his character of Judge Lynch, it told so heavily against Cobbett and Grobe that no doubt of their guilt remained in any mind. Called upon to give a verdict of "Guilty" or "Not guilty," Mike Allison rose and said, "The judge and jury who acquitted them were bribed to do it. I could get wind of the amount given to each of them if it were wanted. I say these men are guilty of murdering Ned Hanson." The word "Guilty" was repeated by every man at the table, and the judge rose to pass sentence: "I do hereby decree that Sam Cobbett and Jim Grobe, being guilty of the murder of Ned Hanson, shall die by hanging, at three o'clock to-morrow morning; and I call upon all men here present to assist me at whatever risk to themselves. This I do in virtue of my authority as Judge Lynch—so help me God!" Taking a small Bible from his pocket, Cartwright handed it to each of the lynchers, who kissed it, and then lay down in the next room until they were awakened to take part in the grim business which awaited them with the dawn. At two A.M. a light touch upon Mr. Paterson's shoulder aroused him from sleep. In the middle of the room was a small kerosene lamp, and close to it a roll of black calico, from which each lyncher cut a slip, and wound it round the upper part of his face. This was done not as a mask, but in order that Judge Lynch's executive officers might know each other. Every man was armed with a long knife and a couple of revolvers. It was arranged that Cartwright, Tom Hanson, and Mike Allison should bring out the doomed prisoners from the hotel in which they were sleeping. The rest of the party, all wearing the ominous black badge stood grouped round the wagon drawn up at the front door. The owner of the hotel was the man who had sat as judge in the court-house on the previous day, and acquiesced in the verdict of "Not guilty." He looked terribly scared when, in response to Cartwright's loud knocks, he opened the door of his hotel, and saw the muzzle of a revolver held close to his head. "Show us up to their room," grimly demanded Cartwright. In a few minutes the doomed men were brought forth and placed in the wagon. By that time a considerable crowd had gathered about it, and the unmasked witnesses of the dread scene greatly outnumbered the masked. Close around the wagon, however, stood the lynching party, shoulder to shoulder, with gleaming fire-arms, in grim defiance of interference. Slowly the wagon proceeded down the street until it reached the spot where a gibbet had been erected. There justice was consummated, and a righteous punishment meted out to two murderers who would otherwise have escaped the gallows.

THE LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET.

A telegram from Liverpool at eleven o'clock to-day says:—The cotton market opened quiet with a fair demand. Probable sales 10,000 bales. Prices on the spot are firm. Futures have risen one or two points. The following transactions are reported for delivery:—May-June, 19-64d.; July-August, 21-64d.

WILL OF THE LATE MR. J. H. ASTELL, M.P.

The will (dated the 29th of July, 1886) has been proved of John Harvey Astell, J.P. and D.L., formerly M.P. for Cambridge 1852-53, and for Ashburton 1858-65, late of Woodbury Hall, Cambridgeshire, a director of the Great Northern Railway Company, who died on the 17th of January last, leaving personal estate of the value of upwards of £138,000, which he charges with the payment of an annuity for her life or widowhood of £3,000 to his wife, Annie Emilia Astell, to whom he also bequeaths £1,000. He provides for marriage portions of £5,000 each for his daughters, with the reversion for each to further £1,500. He devises to his second son, John Henry St. Quintin Astell, the Dale Lodge estate at Sunningdale (subject to the life interest therein of the testator's sister, Louisa St. Quintin), and bequeaths to his said second son £7,000, with the reversion to further £4,600. The testator leaves to his wife for the poor of Gramlingay £80, for the poor of Everton £50, and gives numerous legacies to relatives and servants. He directs the investment forthwith of £1,000, from which the trustees are, at any time within twenty-one years from his decease, upon the request of any one of his sons who may be the tenant for life of the settled estates, to pay the expenses of his candidature to represent the county of Bedford, or any division thereof, in Parliament "in connection with the Conservative party."

TRADE AND FINANCE.

The value of the exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures last month was £17,255,133, an increase over February of last year of £871,126, or about 5¼ per cent. For the two months of the year the value was £35,053,868, an increase of £1,467,080, or about 4¼ per cent. The value of the imports was for the month £28,513,994; and for the two months £59,561,416; an increase in the former case of £1,892,125, or about 7½ per cent., and in the latter of £4,256,508, or about 7¼ per cent. The increase in the exports last month was mainly in yarns and textile fabrics; but there was also a considerable increase in machinery and millwork; and lesser increases in metals, raw materials, and living animals. In the imports, the chief increase was in raw materials, and the next in articles of food. The war scare, it is satisfactory to see, has not checked the improvement in trade.

Apparently the collection of the revenue is not proceeding so quickly just now as it was a week or two ago, or else the disbursements from the Exchequer are unusually large so early in March. At all events, the value of money continues to fall rapidly. The general quotation for discount yesterday was 2¼ per cent., while some of the Eastern banks arranged for bills forward as low as 2½ per cent., and the outside market yesterday as well as on Saturday paid off the loans from the Bank that fell due. It is to be recollected, of course, that the outside market has so far borrowed from the Bank nearly 4 millions, and the war scare has checked both trade and speculation. Still, if the revenue was coming in as well as a fortnight ago, and if the outgoings from the Exchequer had not materially increased, most of the money so borrowed would have gone back again. The decline in rates is raising expectations that the Bank rate will be lowered on Thursday. If the Bank directors had to look only to the demands of the market and the state of their own reserve, there is little doubt that the expectation would be fulfilled. But as matters stand we see no advantage to be gained by lowering the rate. Gold is coming in only slowly, it is true; still, it is coming in: £46,000 was received yesterday. Clearly nothing should be done likely to stop it. On the other hand, a 4 per cent. rate is not oppressive, and the Bank would get no more business with a 3 per cent. than with a 4 per cent. rate; for the outside market rate would instantly go down.

The stock markets were all higher yesterday, but there was as little business as ever doing. Lord Salisbury's speech on Saturday was encouraging, and on the strength of it prices rose; but the execution of the leading Bulgarian mutineers raised a fear that Russia might take action. There was, therefore, hesitation in the morning in the market for Foreign Government bonds, and for the greater part of the day it was barely steady. Later, however, there was a general advance in quotations. At the close Egyptian Unified was ¾ higher than on Saturday, Daira ¾, and Preference ¾. Russian Bonds of 1873 closed ¾ higher, Hungarian and Italian ¼ each, and Spanish 9-16. There was, however, no increase in business, quotations being put up in accordance with the advance on the Continental Bourses. Consols, Home Railways stocks, and American and Canadian Railway securities likewise advanced; but the advance in these also indicated no activity in business. Nor can there be real activity while the political outlook is so uncertain. An amicable settlement of the Eastern and Western questions would at once cause a boom such as has not been seen for a long time. It is even possible that, if the present state of things lasts for months, people may get used to it, assume that it will continue indefinitely, and begin to speculate again, for the influences tending to raise prices are very strong; but it will take time to accustom people to feverish preparation for war all over Europe.

Lord Salisbury's speech last week on the Electric Lighting Amendment Bill introduced by Lord Thurlow gives us a hope that at last a proper amendment to the Act of 1882 will be carried. The Act of 1882, it will be recollected, has completely killed the electric lighting enterprise. Only those, in fact, can afford to light up their manufactories, shops, or houses with the electric light who can have the whole manufacture carried on on their own premises and at their own expense. Lord Thurlow proposes so to amend the Act as to make it commercially profitable for electric lighting to be carried on in the same way as gas; and the Prime Minister recognizes this as a reasonable demand, and promises the support of the Government to the measure. The question really turns upon whether the local authorities, in case they wish to buy up an electric lighting business, are to pay for the goodwill of the business, or are to take it over at its cost price. Obviously, it is unreasonable to throw the whole burden of making a business upon private enterprise, and then take over for the benefit of local ratepayers all the fruits of the enterprise so initiated, merely paying to the company the cost price of the business. This is obviously unfair, except the company is given a monopoly for so long a time as to postpone until a remote generation the possession of the electric light by local authorities.

From the parliamentary brewers' return issued lately we are able to see that the tendency towards a decrease in the number of brewers goes on. In 1882 the total number of brewers licensed for sale was as much as 16,609, and last year the number had fallen to 14,166. The decrease is chiefly in the smaller brewers, those who brewed less than a thousand barrels. They were as numerous as 14,499 in 1882, and last year they had fallen to 12,155. Those who brewed 1,000 barrels and less than 10,000 had fallen from 1,619 to 1,529; those who brewed between 10,000 and 20,000 barrels had fallen from 275 to 260; but there is actually a small increase of from 84 to 85 in the number who brewed from 30,000 to 50,000 barrels. There was an increase too, from 35 to 39, in the number who brewed from 50,000 to 100,000 barrels; but there was a decrease of one, from 17 to 16, in the number who brewed between 100,000 and 200,000 barrels, and an increase from 4 to 5 in the number who brewed from 200,000 to 300,000 barrels. The next, those brewing between 300,000 and 400,000 barrels, remained stationary at 2, while the number who brewed from 400,000 to 500,000 barrels had fallen from 4 to 3. In each of the higher categories there was but one brewer.

THE MORNING PAPERS.

A SUGGESTION FOR AN IRISH UNDER-SECRETARY.

The *Times* suggests that Colonel Sanderson should be appointed Under-Secretary to Mr. Balfour, so as to relieve him of much of the departmental business and answer many of the questions with which the Parnellites overwhelm the Executive. The burden on the Chief Secretary is likely to be increased rather than lessened in the immediate future. It is not impossible that the Government may have to face an actual rising in Ireland, where, unfortunately, the peasantry in many districts have been allowed to possess themselves of arms, and where the Fenians have always kept their organization together. Any movement of the kind would doubtless be suppressed not less promptly and easily than the abortive insurrection of 1867; but it is quite necessary that the Government should be prepared to save the misguided dupes of intriguing traitors from the consequences of their own folly by summary and decisive measures. It is also feared that the Invincibles and other regiments in the left wing of Mr. Parnell's army have got orders from their headquarters in the United States to make ready for action. With the peculiar methods of warfare which the Irish-American paymasters of Mr. Gladstone's parliamentary allies advocate and subsidize the Executive both in Ireland and Great Britain may have to cope. Mr. Balfour has plenty of spirit and firmness; but whether he can work his way unaided through all these toils and anxieties is another question.

SIR HENRY DRUMMOND WOLFF'S APPOINTMENT.

The *Times* cannot dispute the diplomatic abilities of Sir Henry Wolff; but he cannot be said to have acted of late in an altogether discreet manner in the conduct of his negotiations at Constantinople; and in view of the facts that the country is represented at Constantinople by Sir William White and at Cairo by Sir Evelyn Baring, and that Sir Henry Wolff's mission was originally intended to be special and temporary in its character, it is impossible to avoid asking the question whether it is not time that it should come to an end, and whether its special purposes have not now been so far fulfilled that their further pursuit can be safely left in the hands of Sir William White and Sir Evelyn Baring. Practically these questions were answered in the affirmative by the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs and the First Lord of the Treasury.

The *Daily News* considers that in justifying Sir Henry Wolff's mission Sir James Fergusson failed to show that the English Ambassador to the Sultan and the English Resident in Egypt are not perfectly competent to perform the business of the country. Sir Henry Wolff has now been quartered upon the public Exchequer for nearly two years as a reward for making himself disagreeable to Mr. Gladstone in the Parliament of 1880. Mr. Smith may "smiling put the question by," and the Committee may support the Government, as it did last night, by a majority of eighty-eight. But the electors will remember the waste of public money and the affront to public decency.

SIR GEORGE TREVELYAN'S VIEWS.

The *Times* doubts if three other Liberal Unionists could be found to accept Sir George Trevelyan's view of the situation. In this probably not even Mr. Chamberlain, his companion at the Round Table, who is a more representative Radical and, it seems, at least as unflinching a defender of the Union, is in agreement with him.

The *Daily Telegraph* does not agree with Sir George Trevelyan in his ejaculation of despair, that because the present Irish Government has been timid or tardy therefore "the game of law and order is up." The logical outcome of his aspersions on the Ministry would be the support of the whole Opposition to a policy more vigorous than that which he has denounced. To attack a Cabinet as soft, irresolute, and weak, and to follow up their faults by tame surrender, would be jumping from the frying-pan into the fire. The *Daily Telegraph* cannot believe that the former Chief Secretary for Ireland means anything of the kind.

THE IRISH PRESS AND MR. BALFOUR.

The *Freeman's Journal* believes that Mr. Balfour is the last Chief Secretary for Ireland, and predicts for him a lamentable failure. But it suggests that he may make a great reputation by conceding the Irish demand and allying himself and his party with the great fight against injustice.

The *Dublin Express* calls on Mr. Balfour for a vigorous use of the constitutional powers in suppressing such illegal assemblies as that at Inchiquin when Mr. O'Brien spoke of throttling landlords.

The *Irish Times* praises Mr. Balfour as a man of brilliant parts and bold original mind, with courage to press his point, and who comes with a policy distinctly friendly to the whole people.

THE GOVERNMENT AND IRELAND.

The *Scotsman* is of opinion that Lord Salisbury indicates the proper method of dealing with Irish affairs. That method is to strongly repress licence in the interests of liberty; to enforce the law against the lawless; to put down crime, and, at the same time, to deal comprehensively and generously with the wants and grievances of the people. If the Government do this they will assuredly give to Ireland what Ireland has not sufficiently realized of late years—the blessings of peace. But no good will be done if the firmness shown is not continuously shown. Spasmodic assertions of the law irritate without convincing. Firmness steadily maintained, no matter what Government may be in power, will make Ireland a thousand times happier than any such rule as the Parnellites or their American allies could give her.

THE SITUATION IN THE BALKAN PENINSULA.

The *Morning Post* believes that if the slightest hope could be entertained that the Czar and his advisers were powerful enough to resist the pressure and the threats of Pan-Slavism, we might safely guarantee that no further incident would now arise to compromise the situation in the Balkan Peninsula. But it is only too probable that the salutary lesson inflicted on the principal authors of the Silistria and Rustchuk revolts will tend to precipitate matters.

THE BREEDING OF HORSES.

The *Standard* says that common-sense dealing is the form in which the State can best encourage British farmers to take to horse-breeding. They will find the sires soon enough when they find that the trade pays. It is in the power of the authorities, and it is certainly to their interest, to disseminate information, and so to arrange times and places of selection as to ensure to the breeders the maximum amount of certainty as regards the demand, and of simplicity as regards the method of supply. But that is the limit of safe intervention.

The *Morning Post* is convinced that if this enterprise is to be generally successful it must have some countenance from the Government. The State buys a large number of horses every year for military purposes. It is well worth careful consideration whether it would not be the best economy to encourage farmers to breed the class of horse required. The gain to the Government and to the farmer would amply repay the outlay that might be needed to give a stimulus to an important branch of agricultural industry.

THE UNIVERSITY CREWS.

Neither university crew has been in a settled state during the past week. The changes which have taken place in the Cambridge crew have been all for the better, and the prospects of the club have brightened considerably since this day week. Another old oar has joined the crew—namely, C. Barclay, No. 7 of last year. He began by rowing at No. 3, but he has now changed places with Landale, and has taken his old seat. His brother, C. T. Barclay, has also been put in, at No. 2, and McKenna has retired from bow; while Gardner has also left the boat. Yesterday Orford at last came back to his old place, Capron giving way. The crew are now apparently made up, except as regards the bow seat. For this post Hannen, who lately had been rowing No. 2, was tried on Saturday for part of the time; and also Sanford, of Jesus, and Sladen, of Trinity Hall (who kept the place yesterday). The men who have lately joined have at least three clear weeks for training; and, as they are both well accustomed to light boat-rowing and are young, they are likely to be fit enough by the day of the race. Three weeks is rather short time for a man who is beyond twenty-two and who has accumulated much flesh by long inaction; but this is not the case with either of the Barclays. The crew made a good début on the tideway yesterday. Possibly the bow seat may not be finally decided for another day or two; but with the rest of the men settled to their seats the crew will now do well enough. A fortnight ago Cantab prospects looked decidedly gloomy, with all the old oars except Flower out of the boat. Flower could not stay on to practise; but the late reinforcements raise the standard of individual rowing to pretty nearly what it was last season. Condition and uniformity are now the desiderata; the former there is time to attain and the latter already exists to a very creditable extent, despite the almost unprecedented interruptions which have attended the practice. We must go a very long way back into Cambridge University Boat Club history before we can record a season such as the present, wherein the university crew have not once been enabled to settle the men sufficiently to take even one day's practice on the Ely water prior to starting for Putney. We expect to see a very rapid improvement in the rowing and in the pace of the boat during the next sixteen days of practice on the tideway.

Oxford have at last had a turn of bad luck, just as Cambridge were beginning to get over theirs. Wethered, the president, was unwell on Friday and Saturday, and his place was filled by the spare man, Rhodes. This entailed some shifting of seats. Parker moved to No. 6, and Nickalls from No. 2 to No. 4; Rhodes coming in temporarily at No. 2. In addition to the misfortune of losing, at all events for the present, their senior oarsman, the club had a catastrophe with their new ship, by Swaddell, so soon as they began to try her. She was caught in the mill current at Ifley, and her bows were broken against the bank, but not past repair; and meantime they have another light boat to practise in. Allowing for the changes which the president's illness caused, the crew were going well together. Wethered returned to his seat yesterday at Bourne End, and news came that the elder M'Clean will be able to row to-morrow and henceforth. He has been abroad, and had not contemplated rowing this spring. He has not much time for training; but even when half fit he will be much above the average. Cross will make the vacancy, and Rhodes remain as spare man. Both crews have now left their home waters and are located, Oxford at Bourne End and Cambridge at Putney. Oxford have just ordered a new boat from Clasper; but whether she will be ready in time to be of any use remains to be seen.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

ALLAN, wife of Mr. Gordon, Surveyor-General, at Belize, British Honduras, Feb. 14.
BENNETT, wife of Rev. F. Rector of Farley, Surrey, at Marine-parade, Worthing, March 4.
CARRIE, Mrs. George, at Highbury-hill, N., March 5.
CHIPPINDALL, wife of Rev. J. T., at St. Stephen's Rectory, Salford, March 3.
GREENFIELD, Mrs. Joseph H., at Dornton-road, Balham, March 5.
POPE, wife of Rev. A. F., of The Furlong, Tring, March 2.
RAWLINGS, wife of Rev. Arthur, M.A., Vicar, at Cove, Tiverton, March 5.
RISON, Mrs. Alfred, at Queen's-road, Richmond-hill, March 4.

TREVANION, Mrs. H. A., at Den-crescent, Teignmouth, March 3.
WHITBOURN, Mrs. Charles R., at Sutton, March 4.
BROCKLESBY, Mrs. Harry P., at Clevedon, Stroud-green, March 3.
BROWNLOW, wife of Rev. Duncan J., at Lower Baggot-street, Dublin, March 2.
HARDY, Mrs. Herbert C., at Dane Hurst, Sussex, March 4.
MOTH, Mrs. J. W., at Arlington Park-gardens, Gunnersbury, March 4.
NORTH, Mrs. Walter M., at Ty Clyd, Abergavenny, March 4.
OTTLEY, Mrs. Glendower, at Liverpool, March 3.
WHISTLER, wife of Rev. C. W., M.R.C.S., Chaplain of the Fishermen's Church, Hastings, Feb. 28.

MARRIAGES.

CRUYS—HENN—At the English Church, Wiesbaden, Mr. Cornelius Cruys, of Amsterdam, to Emily H., daughter of the late Mr. William R. Henn, March 3.
DE MORGAN—PICKERING—Mr. William F. De Morgan, of Cheyne-row, Chelsea, son of the late Mr. Augustus De Morgan, to Mary E., daughter of the late Mr. Percival A. Pickering, Q.C., of Bryanton-square, W., March 5.

KNIGHT—DUKE—At St. Paul's, Minnesota, U.S.A., Archie E., son of Rev. W. Knight, of Holgate Lodge, Pontefract, Yorkshire, to Evelyn M., daughter of Allen A. Duke, M.D., late of Norwood, March 5.

DEATHS.

ALDORTH, Mr. Richard O., D.L. and J.P., of Newmarket, county Cork, aged 93, Feb. 26.
ANKETELL, Catherine A. F., widow of Mr. Matthew J., J.P., D.L., of Anketell Grove, county Monaghan, at Redcliffe-gardens, South Kensington, aged 72, Feb. 28.
BLUNT, Eliza J., widow of Mr. William, Bengal C.S., aged 82, March 3.
BOOR, James R., son of the late Mr. James, of Warminster, at Shepperton, Middlesex, aged 62, March 4.
BROWN, Archibald H., D.P.W., son of Mr. Archibald Brown, of Johnstoneburn, in Burma, Feb. 28.
CARTER, Louisa, daughter of the late Mr. Thomas E., at St. Leonards-on-Sea, March 3.
DASH, Henry A. E., son of Mr. Thomas A., of H.M. Office of Works, Whitehall-place, S.W. (late of Feltham, Middlesex), at Canford, Dorsetshire, aged 30, March 4.
DIGWEED, Mr. John S., Barrister-at-Law, late of Paris, at Pembroke-villas, W., aged 75, March 5.
GALPIN, Mr. Henry C., at Grahamstown, South Africa, aged 66, Dec. 13.
HALL, Major William J., J.P., Adjutant Argyllshire Highland R.V., late 58th Regiment, son of the late Colonel Hall, of Killeen, Argyllshire, J.P. and D.L., at Edinburgh, March 4.

HANCOCK, Mr. Henry, J.P., at Athorp Villa, Weston-road, Bath, aged 66, March 3.
HAYLAND, Henry M., son of the late Captain, of The Frenchies, Burwash, Sussex, at Datchet, Feb. 15.
KNIGHT, Mr. John, at Springfield House, Palmer's-green, N., aged 69, Feb. 5.
LYSTER, Mary A., widow of Mr. Robert, Barrister-at-Law, at Devonshire-road, Balham, March 5.
MATTHEW, Emilie F., widow of Surgeon-Major T. P., at Crownhill-villas, Willesden, March 4.
PAINE, Mr. William D., late Honorary Colonel 2nd Volunteer Battalion The Queen's, at Cockshot-hill, Reigate, aged 76, March 5.
POUNDEN, Captain Lonsdale, J.P., D.L., at Brownwood House, Enniscorthy, county Wexford, aged 77, March 3.
TWEEDIE, Hannah, widow of Alexander, M.D., F.R.S., at Bute Lodge, Twickenham, aged 90, March 5.
VESEY, Major George W., D.L., at Derrabard, county Tyrone, aged 65, Feb. 28.
WALKER, Georgiana, widow of Colonel Henry T., 25th King's Own Borderers, at Seafeld, Weston-super-Mare, March 4.
WHILDON, Mr. William A. W., at Chichester, aged 27, March 3.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

COSTA RICA RAILWAY COMPANY
(LIMITED).Incorporated under the Companies Acts 1862 to 1883.
Capital.

Six per Cent. First Mortgage Debentures (Registered)	£655,000
Six per Cent. Second Debentures (Registered)	600,000
Shares (180,000 of £10 each)	1,800,000
	£3,055,000

ISSUE of £300,000 (balance of £655,000) SIX PER CENT. FIRST MORTGAGE DEBENTURES of £100 each, principal repayable at par 1st July, 1916; interest payable half-yearly, on the 1st January and 1st July. Principal and interest payable in sterling at the company's office in London.

The First Mortgage Debentures constitute a first charge upon the entire property and undertaking of the company, comprising the existing railways (about 97 miles) and the new railway of about 48 miles, together 145 miles, and on the company's interest in the 800,000 acres of land included in the concession.

Price of Issue, £96 10s. per £100 Debenture, payable as follows:

£5 os. on application.
£30 os. on allotment.
£25 os. on 1st June, 1887.
£25 os. on 1st September, 1887.
£21 10s. on 31st December, 1887.

£96 10s. per Debenture.

Interest at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum will accrue from the dates of payment of the instalments, payable on the 1st January, 1888. Scrip will be issued to be exchanged for definitive debentures after completion of all payments. Subscribers have the option of payment in full on allotment, or the balance on any of the dates above fixed for the instalments, and a rebate will be allowed at the rate of 3 per cent. per annum.

The DIRECTORS of the COSTA RICA RAILWAY COMPANY (LIMITED) are prepared to receive Subscriptions for the above £300,000 FIRST MORTGAGE DEBENTURES, being the balance authorized.

For the further particulars as to these First Mortgage Debentures reference is made to the prospectus of the first issue of £355,000, dated 18th June, 1886, copies of which can, on application, be obtained at the offices of the company.

These particulars are shortly as follows:—

1. The existing railways are about 97 miles. The line now being constructed to connect the two existing lines and complete the system is about 48 miles; total, 145 miles. A map accompanies the prospectus.

2. The net traffic on the existing railways for the last three years, according to the returns furnished by Mr. Keith, has been as follows, viz.: 1883-4, 135,750 tons; 1884-5, 180,000 tons; and for 1885-6, 241,715 tons; which, in Costa Rica gold, is approximately equivalent in sterling to—1883-4, £22,625; 1884-5, £30,000; and 1885-6, £40,285. The interest on the whole of the First Mortgage Debentures (which provide for the completion of the entire system) is £39,300. The net traffic of the entire system is estimated by Messrs. James Livesey and Son (as per their report) at £89,350, being considerably more than double the interest on the First Mortgage Debentures.

3. By Government decree, the tariff of the railways is made payable in Costa Rica gold, or the equivalent thereof, and the company is thus guarded against any depreciation of paper.

The memorandum and articles of association of the company, the agreement between the Costa Rica Government and the bondholders, who have the preferential right to contribute up to one-fourth of the present issue of debentures, the contract with Mr. M. C. Keith, the contractor for the railway, the report of the engineers, the form of the debenture, and other documents, can be inspected by intending subscribers at the offices of the company's solicitors.

Applications for the First Mortgage Debentures should be made upon the form annexed to the prospectus, and be lodged with the bankers with the deposit of £5 per cent. of the amount applied for.

If the whole amount applied for by any applicant be not allotted to him, the balance of the amount paid on deposit will be appropriated towards the sum due on allotment.

In the case of applicants to whom no allotment is made the deposit will be returned in full; failure by allottees in payment at the due date of any instalment of the issue price will render the allotment liable to cancellation and the deposit to forfeiture.

Prospectuses and forms of application can be obtained of the bankers, solicitors, or secretary of the company.

London, 4th March, 1887.

The following are the directors and officers of the company:—

DIRECTORS.	
Sir Gabriel Goldney, Bart.,	John A. Le Lacheur, Esq.
Sir George Russell, Bart.,	Charles N. P. Phipps, Esq.
M.P.	Arthur B. Forwood, Esq.,
	William Roberts, Esq.
	M.P.

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ENGINEER.—James Livesey, Esq.

SOLICITORS.
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"As an illustration of the penetrative power of Magnetic currents, I may mention that I held in front of me a mariner's compass, and Mr. Garratt held behind me one of his Nerve Invigorators, and in a moment the Magnetic current passed through my clothing—and I had a heavy overcoat on—and through my body, and laid hold of the hand of the compass. This is the mighty force which Mr. Garratt infuses into, and sends right through, the system of his patient, producing the most astonishing and beneficial results. A great advantage in connection with this special form of application is that the currents generated by the appliances are continuous, and so gentle and uniform as to be rarely detected when used by the most sensitive patient.

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

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And the Assurance Fund being.... 2,715,760

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The Government valuation in April, 1886, showed that the block, plant, stores (priced not at old stock rates, but at the then ruling market rates), London invoices and supplies, amounted to Rs. 13,85,079, for which sum, converted at 1s. 5½d. per rupee, or £1,01,000, the Vendors have agreed to transfer the undertaking to the Company.

The net profits for the four years ending 31st March, 1885, were as follows:—

1881-82	Rs. 1,03,683
1882-83	1,81,064
1883-84	1,69,987
1884-85	1,20,441*

Total

* Allowing for Rs. 22,607 (special and exceptional charges).

Deducting nearly a lakh of rupees for a somewhat abnormal demand for a special class of work in the two years 1882-4, and for a fair proportion of bad debts, the directors believe that this total may be taken at Rs. 4,80,000, or an average of Rs. 1,20,000 per annum, equivalent, at 1s. 6d., to £9,000.

As regards the profits for the current year, during which work has been resumed, the following telegram has been received by the Vendors, dated Allahabad, 25th January,

1887:—"Your telegram 22nd. Superintendent workshops reports all departments fully employed, and anticipates net profits over one lakh this financial year."

Looking at these figures, the directors anticipate that, when fairly started under the new management, the works will yield a net annual profit sufficient for the payment of

6 per cent. on Debentures	£50,000 =	£3,000
and 9 per cent. on Shares	£60,000 =	£5,400

£8,400

Without assuming any higher profits the dividend upon the shares would advance to 14 per cent. when the Debentures shall have been redeemed; but, independently of this, the Directors have no doubt that the profits will largely increase. It may be added that the Government of the North-West Provinces has promised to give the Company all the assistance in its power.

All the departments of the workshops are fully employed, and the works are in a healthy state as a "going concern."

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Copies of the Memorandum and Articles, and of form of Debentures, and of the proposed Trust Deed for securing the Debentures, and copies or full particulars of the said letters and telegrams, as well as illustrated price-list of articles sold at the works, may be inspected or obtained at the offices of the Solicitors. The Debentures will be payable to the registered holder.

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