

# THE ST. JAMES'S GAZETTE

An Evening Review and Record of News.

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MONDAY, MARCH 14, 1887.

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## COVENT GARDEN.

### ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

TO-MORROW (Tuesday), March 15, at 8.30, Verdi's Opera RIGOLETTO. II Duca, Signor Ravelli; Rigolotto, M. Lherie (his first appearance); Marello, Signor Ciampi; Monterone, Signor Vaschetti; Sparafucili, Signor Vetta (his first appearance); Maddalena, Mme. Lablache; Giovanna, Mdle. Bauermeister; and Gilda, Mdle. Lilian Nordica. Conductor, Signor Loghede.

THURSDAY, March 17th, Donizetti's Opera LA FAVORITA.

Fernando, Signor Ravelli; Alfonso XI., M. Lherie; Baldassare, Signor Miranda (his first appearance); and Leonora, Mdle. Helene Has-treiter (her first appearance). The Divertissement by Mdle. Hayten (her first appearance).

Nightly prices of admission: 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. Doors open at 8, commence at 8.30. Box-office open daily 10 to 10.5.

## DRURY LANE.

### DRURY LANE.—AUGUSTUS HARRIS, Lessee and Manager.

EVERY EVENING, at 7.25; Morning Performance EVERY WEDNESDAY, and SATURDAY, at 1.25.

#### THE FORTY THIEVES.

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 10 till 5. Seats booked by letter or telegram.—LYCEUM.

## ADELPHI.

ADELPHI THEATRE.—Messrs. A. and S. GATTI, Sole Proprietors and Managers. THIS EVENING, at 8.0, THE HARBOUR LIGHTS (4th time). Mr. William Terriss, Messrs. Beveridge, Garden, Maclean, Lyndal, Boleyn, Russell, Wentworth, Travers, &c.; Mesdames Millward, Achurch, C. Jecks, Leigh, Brennan, Nelson, &c. At 7.15, FAMILY JARS.

## GLOBE.

GLOBE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. H. HAWTREY.—TO-NIGHT, at 8.45, and EVERY EVENING, a Farical Comedy in Three Acts, entitled THE SNOWBALL, by Sydney Grundy, preceded at 8 o'clock by a new Comedietta, AFTER MANY DAYS, by Arthur Elwood. To conclude with a Musical Absurdity, CRAZED, by A. R. Phillips. Messrs. C. H. Hawtreay, Wilfred Draycott, W. Letocq, Norman Bent, Stewart Dawson, and W. J. Hill; Misses Vane Featherston, Blanche Horlock, Florence Haydon, Hettie Gray, and Fanny Brough, &c. Box-office open from 10 to 5. Business Manager, Mr. E. F. Bradley.

## PRINCE OF WALES'S.

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

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE. ALICE IN WONDERLAND.—MR. EDGAR BRUCE'S MATINEES.

TO-DAY 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.

## OLYMPIC.

OLYMPIC.—MR. EDWARD TERRY'S SEASON.—At 9.15, THE CHURCHWARDEN; at 8, THE TWO BLINDS; at 8.25, HOME RULE. Last 6 Nights, owing to expiry of lease. LAST MATINEE, Saturday next, at 8.30.—Acting Manager, Mr. H. T. Brickwell.

## AVENUE.

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

## GAIETY.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, GEORGE EDWARDES.—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.

SPECIAL NOTICE.—The MORNING PERFORMANCES OF MONTE CRISTO JR. will be discontinued until after Easter, and be resumed on Saturday, April 16.—GAIETY THEATRE.

## SAVOY.

SAVOY.—R. D'OLVY CARTE, Proprietor and Manager.—EVERY EVENING, at 8.30, the New and Original Supernatural Opera, in Two Acts, by W. S. Gilbert and Arthur Sullivan, entitled RUDDIGORE; OR, THE WITCH'S CURSE. Messrs. G. Grossmith, R. Barrington, R. Temple, R. Lewis, and D. Lely; Mesdames J. Findlay, Jessie Bond, Lindsay, and R. Brandram. Preceded, at 7.40, by THE CARP. Doors open 7.30. Box-office open from 9 A.M. till 11 P.M. Morning Performance of RUDDIGORE every SATURDAY, at 2.30.

## HAYMARKET.

HAYMARKET.—Lessees 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 Coult, Mr. Fenton, Mr. Ferrand, and Mr. H. Beerbohm-Tree; Miss Mary Rorke, Miss Lydia Cowell, and Miss Marion Terry. Booking-office open daily 10 to 5.

MAN AND WIFE, by Wilkie Collins, in active preparation.

## ST. JAMES'S.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. HARRIS 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, Mr. De Verney, E. 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.

## CRITERION.

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

## VAUDEVILLE.

VAUDEVILLE.—THIS EVENING, at 8.30, SOPHIA (238th time), by Robert Buchanan. Messrs. THOMAS THORNE, Carleton, Fred Thorne, Farquhar, Mellish, Grove, Wheatman, and LEONARD BOYNE; Mesdames Larkin, Leclercq, Venne, Forsyth, and K. Rorke. At 7.45, NEARLY SEVERED. MATINEE every SATURDAY, at 2.30.

## OPERA COMIQUE.

OPERA COMIQUE.—TO-NIGHT, at 8.15, THE SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL. Messrs. Forbes-Robertson, Fernandez, Forbes-Dawson, Tapping, S. Brough, Caffrey, J. C. Buckstone, Paget, Fawcett, Lawrence, Boyle, and Curtis; Mesdames John Billington, Gwynne, Mayer, Susan Vaughan, and Miss Kate Vaughan. Preceded, at 7.45, by A MERRY MEETING.

## PRINCESS'S.

PRINCESS'S THEATRE.—THE NOBLE VAGABOND (70th time), by Henry Arthur Jones, at 8.15, in which Mr. Charles Warner, Messrs. George Barrett, Charles Cartwright, Julian Cross, E. W. Thomas, E. Gurney; Mesdames Dorothy Dene, Bella Titheradge, Annie Hughes, &c., will appear. Doors open 7.15. Commence at 7.45 with THE CLOCKMAKER'S HAT. Miss Hampton, &c. Box-office open from 10 to 5.

## 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. Lueg, and John Clayton; Misses Norreys, Laura Linden, Marie Lewes, and Mrs. John Wood. At 8.0, THE NETTLE. Miss Cudmore. Mr. Kerr. Box-office open 10 till 5. No fees.

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

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Samples of the Printing may be seen, and descriptive schedules and forms of tender obtained, at H.M. Stationery Office, Princes-street, Storey's-gate, between the hours of twelve and four, on and after Monday, the 21st February, 1887; and tenders must be delivered on or before twelve o'clock noon on Thursday, the 31st day of March, 1887. H.M. Stationery Office, Princes-street, Storey's-gate, Westminster, 18th February, 1887.

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The Controller of H.M. Stationery Office is prepared to receive Tenders for Job-work Printing required for the Post Office for three years commencing from the 1st July, 1887.

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## THE ST. JAMES'S GAZETTE.

MONDAY, MARCH 14, 1887.

## MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S EXPLANATION.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN showed some disposition on Saturday evening to murmur at the ubiquity of the newspaper reporters. He asked why the leaders of the Radical Unionist party could not be allowed to carry on their deliberations and to shape their policy in private; and he stated that the publicity of the meeting which he was then addressing was due to necessity rather than to choice. The leaders of a democratic party ought not to show any reluctance to have their proceedings attentively followed by the readers of newspapers; and it is difficult to believe that Mr. CHAMBERLAIN was really very sorry to have an opportunity of letting the public know the truth about his attitude on the Irish question. At all events, willingly or unwillingly, he spoke with a full consciousness of the fact that he was speaking to the country at large; and he had something definite to say and said it with his wonted clearness. He was not at liberty to give an account of what was actually said and done round Sir WILLIAM HARCOURT'S table; and he abstained from stating his opinion on certain doubtful points. Nevertheless, he has probably formed one. He did not say, for instance, whether Sir WILLIAM HARCOURT was justified in feeling all the confidence in the success of the Conference which he had expressed; nor did he describe the probable nature of the "hitch" which at present stands in the way of Liberal reunion. But he stated with great clearness the conditions on which he would join hands with the Gladstonians and forget past differences; he definitely asserted that those conditions had not been fulfilled; and he declared that the conflict between Liberal Unionists and Gladstonians must be renewed and vigorously carried on.

The main fact established by the speech is, then, that the Round Table Conference has not succeeded in reuniting the Liberal party. Mr. CHAMBERLAIN submitted to the Conference seven grounds upon which he had based his opposition to the proposed legislation of Mr. GLADSTONE. As it was officially asserted that Mr. GLADSTONE'S Bills were dead, Mr. CHAMBERLAIN'S immovable opposition to them was not a necessary obstacle to a reconciliation. Was it possible to agree upon a policy which would satisfy Mr. GLADSTONE, and which at the same time would not be obnoxious to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN'S seven cardinal objections? The objection which most clearly marked the difference of opinion between Mr. CHAMBERLAIN and Mr. GLADSTONE was probably the fourth: "that the maintenance of law and order could not be safely entrusted to a Parliament at Dublin, but must remain under the control of the imperial authority." Mr. CHAMBERLAIN has always insisted, and still insists, that the real Executive Government of Ireland must be an Imperial Executive, controlled by the Imperial Parliament. The other objections applied to almost all the machinery which Mr. GLADSTONE had provided for carrying out his policy, and could only be met by the suggestion of some new legislative devices, fitted to secure Mr. GLADSTONE'S ends without breaking Mr. CHAMBERLAIN'S conditions. The ingenuity of the Liberal leaders might produce some draft Bill the minor details of which both parties would approve: would it be equal to the task of settling to the satisfaction of both the amount of independence to be allowed to the new Irish institutions? How far the Conference got towards achieving this end we shall most likely never know. Mr. CHAMBERLAIN was too discreet to reveal the secrets of the confidential discussion. He contented himself with quoting Sir W. HARCOURT'S declaration that "the subjects upon which we agreed were great and many, and that the topics on which we differed were secondary and few." This declaration certainly sounded as if the Conference had done its work successfully. But either Sir WILLIAM HARCOURT did not mean quite so much as he said, or else a reference to headquarters proved that his sanguine temperament had misled him; for it has not been found possible to determine on a united Liberal policy. A hitch has occurred. Where is it? Mr. CHAMBERLAIN declares that he does not know. All he knows is that "we appear to be as far from a settlement as ever." Things are as they were before the Conference took place. There is this difference, however: that the candid interchange of opinions round a table is an expedient which has been tried and found wanting, instead of being one that remains to be tried.

The Round Table Conference, then, has failed. There is nothing very surprising in that. Failure was prophesied from the outset; and Mr. CHAMBERLAIN probably never expected that the union of the Liberal party could result from it. But if the Conference has not reunited the party, it has produced another effect which Mr. CHAMBERLAIN foresaw. It has strengthened his position by enabling him to say that the breaking-up of the party is not his doing, but Mr. GLADSTONE'S. If Sir WILLIAM HARCOURT'S optimism was

genuine, even he was ready to agree to terms which Mr. CHAMBERLAIN could accept. In any case Mr. CHAMBERLAIN did his best. "I have done what I can," he says, "and I say now that I cannot see my way properly to take any further steps in the matter." "There is one man and one man only who can restore the unity of the Liberal party." In other words, there is one man and one man only who is responsible for the disruption of the Liberal party; "and that man is Mr. GLADSTONE." This is what Mr. CHAMBERLAIN wanted to be able to say, believing it to be the central fact of the whole situation. And the Conference has enabled him to say it with increased emphasis and authority.

We have heard so much vague talk of reconciliation and reunion lately, that Mr. CHAMBERLAIN'S plain speaking is doubly welcome. It clears the air which was darkened with rumours and conjectures, devised in many cases, no doubt, for the purpose of embarrassing the Government. Mr. CHAMBERLAIN has made it clear that he has not receded from the position he originally took up, and that he will continue to resist any measure which tends to endanger the real legislative union of England and Ireland or to deprive the Imperial Government of efficient control over Irish affairs. The Liberal party is not at one. It is severed into two parts: it "will be permanently divided into two groups," according to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN'S estimate. The Birmingham Unionist organization has been quiescent of late. It has observed an armistice during the period of negotiation in Grafton-street. The armistice is over; and Mr. CHAMBERLAIN recommends elaborate organization and a Radical Unionist canvass of every constituency. The electoral methods which he suggests are open to criticism. But his speech shows that the Liberal Unionist party is likely to be more active and more hostile to disruption than it was before the Conference. That is the most important result to which the negotiations have led.

## LORD WESTBURY ON CHURCH PATRONAGE.

THE House of Lords goes into Committee on the Church Patronage Bill to-morrow afternoon, when we hope that some amendments which are down upon the paper may be carried. The Bishop of Lichfield, should he be successful with his own amendment, will disable the Council of Presentations from doing much mischief; but that would be so fundamental an alteration in the Bill that the Archbishop of Canterbury can hardly be expected to agree to it. Something may be done, however, with the clauses which regulate the sale of advowsons by way of extending their operation and bringing them more into harmony with what Lord Westbury called "a great constitutional principle that the Church should be united with the landed property of the country." The opinion of this very able lawyer and well-known Liberal politician on the question of Church patronage cannot fail to be interesting at the present moment; and we have on that account extracted the following passage from the speech which he delivered in 1863 when introducing into the House of Lords the Augmentation of Benefices Bill. The object of the Bill was to enable the Lord Chancellor to sell the advowson of the poorer livings in his gift and apply the money to the augmentation of their incomes. Lord Westbury said:—

What I particularly desire is to bring back the present state of things to that which originally existed, because advowsons originally came into being from great landed proprietors building and endowing churches; and then, by the sanction of the spiritual authority, he who had created and endowed was thought best entitled to have the presentation to the living. . . . Your lordships must be familiar with the contrast between a parish which has no resident proprietor and a parish which has a proprietor resident: who, having a right to nominate, takes a pride in the maintenance of the parish church, in its ornamentation, in the maintenance of the parsonage, and in the building and endowing of schools. I trust and hope that these advowsons will get for the most part into the hands of landed proprietors, who will become desirous not only of being owners of them but also of discharging their duty to the Church by taking a particular interest in the welfare of the parish and of religion.

It is proposed by one amendment which stands in the name of Lord Stanley of Alderley to give the same power to the Archbishops and Bishops which is given by the Act of 1863 to the Lord Chancellor, and by another to extend that Act to all Chancellors livings in Wales (why not England and Wales?) of less than £250 a year which are not named in the schedule. The livings which might be sold by the Act of 1863 were all specified and were all under £250 a year. Since that time they have all been sold; and, owing to the deterioration of Church property, there is abundant room now for a second schedule, extending a plan which when it was first suggested met with universal approval, and which when carried out as its author intended is in perfect accord with the original character and constitution of the Church of England.

The "qualified parishioner" in the Church Patronage Bill is one who possesses property in the parish of the rateable value of £200 a year; and this provision is taken from the Augmentation of Benefices Act. It is perhaps a question whether a hard and fast line should be drawn at £200 a year; for there may be many parishes in which the most eligible landed proprietor for the purposes of the Act, and the one who agreeably to the principle laid down by Lord Westbury ought to have the advowson, does not own so much property. It may lie

on the edge of an estate of three or four thousand acres, the owner of which may be the only landowner in the parish corresponding to Lord Westbury's idea, and yet, not possessing the requisite two hundred acres, he would by the present Bill be excluded from the right of purchase. If this anomaly could be rectified, it would be all the better. But what we especially desire to call attention to is Lord Westbury's opinion that the landed proprietors make the best patrons, and to the logical inference that, instead of accumulating patronage in the hands of the Bishops and councils of presentations, we should try as much as possible to redistribute it among the country gentlemen, who have a direct and substantial interest in making the best possible appointments.

## NOTES.

Another attempt has been made to assassinate the Czar. So the *Standard* informs us this morning, on the authority of a telegram in cipher from some place which is not indicated. The report is contradicted at the Russian Embassy, it seems; but the *Standard* declares that its cipher message comes from "an absolutely trustworthy source." It further appears that this attempt was made yesterday; that is to say, on the anniversary of the assassination of Alexander II. in 1881. If so, there is something very significant in the fact. To "get at" the Czar at all might be supposed to be a difficult thing; to be able to choose a day seems to indicate an extraordinary command of time and circumstance. Something else we may certainly assume, if the attempt on the Czar's life really was made yesterday. It was a Nihilist blow, intended to celebrate the assassination of one Emperor while murdering another. However, no detail accompanies the report, which has yet to be confirmed. If true, it may turn out to be a serious matter. Serious, we mean, in its effect on the mind of the Czar, which was very much shaken by the murder of his father and by the dreadful uncertainty in which every hour of his own life was passed for long after. He might possibly persuade himself, for instance, that it is necessary to take action in Bulgaria.

For a distinguished man of letters Sir George Trevelyan finds a curious difficulty in making his meaning clear. Nobody can quite make out whether he has abandoned the Unionists or not. Someone has written to Sir George himself to ask him how the matter stands, and he has replied that his "views on the relations which ought to exist between Great Britain and Ireland are the same as they were." This seems all right; but then Sir George "believes those views to be reconcilable with the present views of the majority of the Liberal party." Here we are at sea again; nor are we much assisted by Mr. Chamberlain's statement that it was only Sir George's desire to be amiable to his Home Rule friends which caused him to make that speech at the Devonshire Club. On the whole, Sir George Trevelyan should imitate Mr. Chamberlain and let the world know exactly what he *does* mean. He will lose nothing by his candour.

Great sympathy has been excited among the English inhabitants of India for the unfortunate Rukmibhai, a Hindoo lady, who has just been ordered to return to her husband on pain of six months' imprisonment. This lady's grounds for refusing to live with her husband were, first, that she married him at the age of eleven without knowing what she was doing or ever giving any intelligent consent to the marriage; secondly, that, while she has grown up since the marriage to be a person of refined habits and considerable education, he is a mere coolie, living in circumstances to which she would be totally unsuited; thirdly, that he is suffering from consumption. The case has been the subject of prolonged litigation; but in the end the court regretfully decided that the marriage was a valid one according to the Hindoo custom, and could not be declared void. Rukmibhai refuses to live with the man to whom she was unconsciously made over in childhood, and she will have to go to prison. The state of the Hindoo marriage law is the greatest evil afflicting our fellow-subjects in India. The young native radical reformer clamours for parliamentary institutions and caucuses, but he will not stir a finger to free the Hindoo women from their wretched condition. It would, of course, be ridiculous to attempt the reform of Indian domestic life by an agitation in this country. The change must come from within, not from outside. If the Radical baboo was worth anything he would try to set it in motion.

Twenty-five years ago last Saturday George Peabody gave £150,000 for the erection of improved dwellings for the London poor, an amount that he subsequently increased to a total of half a million sterling. To-day his trustees are the owners of eighteen different estates, spread over the entire metropolis, from Shadwell to Chelsea and from Bermondsey to Islington. Their tenants number 20,000, in 5,000 separate dwellings, with 11,000 rooms. As over one quarter of the heads of families are described as labourers or porters, while there are no fewer than 269 charwomen, there does not seem to be much ground for the common belief that the dwellings are too good or too expensive for any one below the skilled artisan class. But the Peabody gift has done much more than provide decent accommodation for 20,000 people. It has set in motion all the other companies and trusts that together have

provided house-room for at least as many more. By insisting firmly but kindly on the rent being paid punctually week by week in advance, the trustees have done much towards the remarkable growth in thrift which has been so visible of late years. Londoners may well forgive America much vapouring of politicians "angling for the Irish vote" in memory of George Peabody.

It is enough to make one despair to hear that the Curtins have been "hunted out of their country and abandoned to their fate without any encouragement or help by successive Governments." Yet the *Times'* Dublin correspondent assures us that this is the case. The duty of the Administration to protect and even reward this brave family was so obvious that it is difficult to understand how it could have been neglected. What is the use of talking about the restoration of order when the peasantry have such unanswerable demonstrations that to obey the League is safe and profitable, while to obey the law means proscription, abandonment, and ruin?

That brilliant little Royalty adaptation "Modern Wives" seems to have proved fatal to those chiefly concerned in it. Mr. Lytton Sothorn, who was playing one of the principal characters, and Mr. Ernest Warren, the adaptor, have both died within the past few days. Mr. Lytton Sothorn, whose first claim to notoriety was that he was the son of his father, was rapidly gaining fame on his own account. His death is a loss to the stage. But skilful dramatists are less common than good actors, and even more to be deplored is the death of the adaptor of "Modern Wives" and "Antoinette Rigaud" and the author of "The Nettle." Mr. Warren showed a deft touch and a capacity for neat dialogue. As he was improving rapidly, it is probable that he would have done some good work for the stage, if he had lived.

Some time or other, when somebody has settled what "literature" (for teaching purposes) is and how it should be taught, Oxford will do well to found a School of Literature. At present the university does not propose to do anything of the sort; wherein it also acts wisely. It would certainly be absurd and undignified for the University of Oxford to rush precipitately into establishing the new School because Mr. Churton Collins has found out that Mr. Gosse (who has nothing whatever to do with Oxford) has made some mistakes, and because various statesmen, doctors, men of science, novelists, eminent manufacturers, and other people who have no practical experience of educational matters, have said that they think English literature is quite the proper thing for undergraduates to learn. Eventually we trust that we shall have a School of Belles-Lettres. But the limits and character of the new study must be settled first. In the present state of information on the subject, it seems to us that the new School would be practically one of criticism at second-hand; which is surely the least worthy, of all things, to be studied by ingenious youth.

The School of Literature, then, being rightly postponed till the educational world has got a trifle nearer to the settlement of one or two of the questions hinted at above, we are glad to note that the Hebdomadal Council is in favour of establishing a School of modern languages and comparative philology, with English and Anglo-Saxon among the special subjects. The proposal will soon be submitted to Congregation, and it ought to be carried. "Literature" is a vague and indefinite subject, but comparative philology is not. We know exactly how it can be taught, and, what is more, we know that it can be learnt and examined in. Of course "English language" is not "English literature;" but to institute an Honour School for the one (combined, of course, with the study of the kindred tongues) is no impediment to the establishment of an examination for the other whenever it may be found desirable. Meanwhile Oxford will no longer be open to the reproach of neglecting the young and fruitful science of language. Of course the advertising enthusiasts will be very indignant. They do not at all like the notion of encouraging Anglo-Saxon and Early English; having a profound contempt for these studies, usually based on an equally profound ignorance of them.

Although the sale of confidential official information to the agents of a foreign Government does not now appear to entail any unpleasant legal consequences upon the offender, in the early part of the present century the law was occasionally brought to bear with no slight severity on those who clandestinely carried the secrets of our inventions into foreign countries. A remarkable case in point is that of a man, by name William Hewitt, who was indicted at the Old Bailey Sessions in October, 1809, for enticing an artificer of the name of John Hutchinson to leave this country and emigrate to the United States of America. Mr. Hughes, a dyer in Bunhill-row, gave evidence that Hutchinson was in his service under contract as a working mechanic, skilled in the dyeing of cotton, and that on the 30th of August the prisoner, by promises of future reward and the immediate advance of a sum of money amounting to about £22, engaged him to leave this country and accompany him to America, there to be employed in a cotton manufactory, in order that his knowledge with regard to the dyeing of cotton might be turned to account. Hewitt was sentenced to pay a fine of £500 and to suffer three months' imprisonment. Hutchinson was

also convicted under the same Act of Parliament for engaging to leave the country, and was ordered to find bail to remain in it. Thus were British inventions and interests protected in days of yore.

Railway card-sharpers must, to judge by the persistency with which they pursue their occupation, reap large profits. Three men were on Saturday each sentenced at Leicester to three months' imprisonment and hard labour for this offence. They were seen by a detective officer to enter one of the carriages of a train on the Midland Railway in which was seated a young gentleman, whose innocent appearance no doubt marked him as a promising object for their operations. The detective took the liberty of also getting into the carriage, and his journey, although made by way of business, was not wholly devoid of interest; for between Derby and Leicester the too-confiding young gentleman in the compartment was cheated out of more than £7. The extent to which railway travellers are robbed by card sharpers is probably far greater than is generally known. It is not always, as in this Leicester case, that a detective is at hand to watch the proceedings of the swindlers and bring them to justice.

The date of the "Football Jubilee Festival" was well chosen, as it came at the practical close of the season in London, and it is hardly to be wondered at that the chance of seeing two first-class matches played in the presence of the Prince of Wales should have attracted the largest crowd that ever assembled at the Oval to see a football match. The Rugby Union match between Middlesex and Lancashire looked upon paper a foregone conclusion for the southerners; but the Lancashire men seemed in better training, and it was their better combination that won the match. The Corinthians and Preston North End are old opponents; and, in spite of the recent defeat of the latter club in the Cup ties, the pair are taken as representing the best "Gentlemen's" and "Players'" teams respectively, and the match thus derived additional interest. The draw of one goal each was doubtless disappointing to the southern crowd; but the team were so even that another result could hardly have been expected. The Colonial Institute should realize a handsome sum from the profits of the match.

If that remarkable sample of busybody legislation which the Scotch judge described as "a Bill to permit me to prohibit you from getting a glass of whisky" does not get itself passed very speedily, the only argument in its favour—the drunkenness of the nation—will be a thing of the past. So at least we are led to hope by the report of the number of arrests made on Sundays in 1886 for drunkenness, which has just been published. In 1884 there were in England and Wales 15,942 convictions; in 1885, 14,658; while in 1886 the total had further fallen to 12,917. There was therefore a reduction of no less than 19 per cent. in two years—a reduction which it is impossible to ascribe to greater leniency in the enforcement of the law. Needless to say, the ratio of convictions to population varies widely. In some agricultural districts it is as low as one to 100,000, in others as high as one to 10,000. In London it is one to 1,400, rising to the tremendous proportion of one to 350 in Manchester. Perhaps the benighted southerner may be permitted to hope that what London does to-day Lancashire may do, if not to-morrow, at least next year.

The Parisian advocates discussed the delicate question "Has a husband a right to open his wife's letters?" at their last conference, and they decided that he has. A journalist who has consulted several extra-legal luminaries on the point finds them, with a single exception, in substantial agreement with the lawyers. An "enlightened priest," whose name is not given, answered that the doctrine of the Church was that the "husband is master in the house," and that he had, therefore, a perfect right to open his wife's letters. M. de Pressensé, the leading Protestant pastor in Paris, was somewhat less affirmative; though, as regards wives who had anything to fear from the exercise of the right, he supported the decision of the barristers, while in the case of a good wife he could not see how it mattered either way. Alexander Dumas, looking at the question from the historico-philosophical stand-point, contended that what we know of the relations of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden clearly establishes the right of the husband to inspect his wife's correspondence. Mdme. Peyrebrune's answer was also in the affirmative, though she added that the question was of no practical importance, as compromising letters are never sent through the post. Mdme. Adam was the only dissentient. In her opinion, the husband who opened his wife's letters was nothing more nor less than a blackguard (*goujat*).

The demolition of Bleeding Heart Yard removes one of the lesser landmarks of literary London. Soon neither the factory of Daniel Doyce nor the domicile of Plornish, plasterer, will possess a local habitation. But, although Dickens is the true *genius loci*, it is not a little curious that the etymology of the name of the yard should have been lost. There seems to be no other authority than "Little Dorrit" to prove that it was the scene of a murder. At least the only tradition to this effect is that, when the yard was still part of the garden of Hatton House, Lady Elizabeth Coke was here torn in pieces by his Satanic Majesty. The story of the lovesick young lady who was imprisoned here by her cruel father, and who used to sing at her window, "Bleeding heart, bleeding heart, bleeding away," was also coined

out of Dickens's imagination. Nor is it easy to trace the connection between this historic sium and the red wall-flower which is known as "bleeding heart" in some parts of England. As for the sign of the tavern in Charles-street, it is at least as likely that it takes as that it gives its name to the yard. There are still plenty of Bleeding Hart Inns in different parts of the country; but it does not seem to be very satisfactory that we should credit an illiterate sign-painter with the mystery. In fact the derivation promises to remain as much of an enigma as it was in the days of Little Dorrit.

The next subject of debate for the Society of Authors ought to be their social status. Is authorship a profession; and if not, is it a trade? This has always been a vexed question, and it cropped up again in the Clerkenwell County Court last week. A witness in a case said he was an author by profession. The judge said, "I am afraid we don't recognize authors here as professional men." For a moment the witness's reputation hung in the balance, when luckily he remembered that he was also a professional cricketer. That settled it. His claim to being a professional man was promptly acknowledged.

### THE COURTS OF SPRING.

To March's court the icy wind  
Of winter may some ingress find,  
And through the half-closed door some snow  
Perchance may blow;  
Small matter! flakes from winter's storm  
To snowdrops March will soon transform.

And fragrant seas of violets lave  
The gates of Spring; and breezes have  
Caught some sweet scent as through they passed;  
And winter's blast  
Itself, whilst chilling March's court,  
With odours faint of Spring is fraught.

And paths of silver daisies wove,  
With almond blossom twined above,  
Lead straightway to the fair demesne  
Of sun and rain;  
And April's portals opened wide  
Show realms by primrose petals pied.

And orchard boughs, with white and red  
Enwreathed, o'erhead are canopied;  
And larks arise and gaily sing  
The praise of spring;  
And perfumed lilacs line the way  
Unto the glorious court of May.

And May's rich store of hawthorn flowers  
Her fastnesses in bloom embowers,  
And all the air is redolent  
Of balmy scent;  
And golden cowslips spangle o'er  
And steep in sweets the sun-lit floor.

And in the silent hours of night,  
When sable hangings veil the light,  
A song of saddest, sweetest notes  
Through May's court floats,  
And Philomel the parables  
Of love unto the darkness tells.

E. F. M.

### WOODCOCK.

As is usual in autumn, vast flocks of woodcocks alighted on our shores in October; and those that have not been shot or are remaining to breed are about to make their return migration across the North Sea, passing thence to their breeding-grounds. The woodcock is a "shifting" species; and just as any bird is erratic in its wanderings, so it is interesting to naturalists. The British Association is already on the track of the "woodsnipe," as are several individual observers in a more literal sense. There was a time when the nesting of the woodcock in England was of such rare occurrence as to be recorded in all the natural history journals. We now know that it has bred in almost every county in England; that it breeds commonly in some; and that the number of birds which remain in our woods is annually increasing. This fact proves that the woodcock's habits are being modified, and ornithologists have now to discover the reasons of its extended range.

In coming to this country woodcocks generally travel in the night and against a head-wind. Many which are slightly exhausted pitch upon the east coast, and here lie resting until nightfall, when they again pass on. The probability is that if these birds had not experienced a rough passage they would not touch the eastern seaboard, but keep well in the upper currents of the air, and first drop in our western woods or even those of Ireland. The migrating bodies are usually preceded by flocks of tiny goldcrests; and so invariable is this rule that the latter have come to be called "woodcock-pilots." The males precede the females by

a few days; the latter bringing with them the young that have been bred that year. It is a point worthy of notice, and one upon which much confusion exists, that the birds that come to us are usually in the very best condition. Soon after their arrival they disperse themselves over the leaf-strewn woods, and the same birds are known to resort to the same spots for many successive years. They seek out the warmer parts of the wood, and in such secluded situations they sleep and rest during the day. At dusk they issue forth, with their peculiar owl-like flight, to seek their feeding-grounds. Like many birds, they have well-defined routes, and daily at twilight may be seen flying along the rides and paths of the woods or skirting along certain portions of the plantation. Coppice-belts they like best, and especially such as contain spring runs. It is here that the bird most easily finds its food, the soft ground enabling it to probe quickly and to a considerable depth in search of earth-worms. These constitute its principal diet, and the quantity that a single bird can devour is enormous. The long mobile bill of the woodcock is a study in itself. The rapidity with which the bird uses this instrument in following a worm in the ground is marvellous. It is extremely flexible—so much so as to be bent and twisted in all manner of ways without suffering harm—and it is as sensitive as flexible.

Every sportsman knows that woodcocks are here to-day, gone to-morrow. He often finds that where there were plenty yesterday not a single 'cock remains. Ireland, maybe, affords the best shooting. It was here that the Earl of Clermont shot fifty brace in one day. This feat was the result of a wager; and the bag was made by two o'clock in the afternoon, with a single-barrelled flint-lock. The birds were shot in an old moist wood; and it is in such spots on the mild west coast that the woodcock finds its favourite haunt. In England the birds affect coppice-woods—frequenting most those which are wet, and such as have rich deposits of dead and decaying leaves. Most of these copses are of oak and birch and hazel, and being only of a few years' growth get thick in the top. Killing 'cock, as they dash through the twigs of these and but seldom rise above the bushes, is one great test of the shooter's skill. Then the birds have a habit of dropping down at a short distance, which almost invariably deludes the inexperienced gunner. When they are put up from their resting-places during the day their flight is rapid, at evening it is slow. It is now that they are easiest to shoot; though in some parts of the country they are still taken in nets as they fly at dusk through the paths of the woods. Netting woodcocks was at one time the common way of taking them; for they have always been highly esteemed as food. Another method of capture was by "gins" and "springes;" and it would seem that in times past the "woodsnipe" was considered a stupid bird. None of the denizens of our woods conforms better or more closely to its environment. The browns and duns and yellows of its back all have their counterparts in the leaves among which it lies. And it has been pointed out that the one conspicuous ornament of the bird is covered by a special provision from the gaze of those for whose admiration it is not intended. This is the bright colouring of the tail-feathers which cannot be seen except at the will of the bird or in flight. Its protection lacks in one thing, however; and that is its large dark eye. This is full, bright, and (so to speak) obtrusive. It is not often that a special provision of this kind is injurious to its owner; but the lustre which beams from the woodcock's eye is apt to betray its presence, and even to negative the advantage of its protective colouring. This has long been known. Hudibras has it that "Fools are known by looking wise, as men find woodcocks by their eyes."

The woodcock is an early breeder, the eggs being generally found by the second week in April. These are usually four in number; and the nest is placed among dried grass, leaves, and fern. The young are able to run about immediately they are hatched, and are sometimes found with portions of the shell still adhering to their down. In a few days they are led to the vicinity of water, where they remain until they are able to fly. It is said that a small bank of moss is sometimes constructed by the old birds, and upon this worms are placed. In its yielding substance they have their first lesson in boring, and obtain the kind of food which constitutes their chief diet in after-life. One of the most interesting traits about the woodcock is the fact of its occasionally conveying its young through the air; which is done by only one or two other birds. This is no recent discovery. The fact was known as early as the middle of last century; but Gilbert White rightly surmised that the observers were mistaken in supposing that the young one was conveyed either by or in the bill. It is just as erroneous, however, to substitute the claws, as some have done, for the bill. The truth is, that when the parent bird wishes to convey her young one from a place of danger to one of safety, the tiny thing is gently pressed between the feet and against the breast, the aid of the bill only being resorted to when the burden has been hastily taken up. In this way the whole of the brood is sometimes removed from one part of a wood to another, if danger be imminent or if the birds have been much disturbed. On this subject the brothers Stuart have an interesting note in "Lays of the Deer Forest." One of them says:—"One morning, sitting on a grey-stone, I saw a dark eye which was fixed upon mine from the bed of leaves before me; when suddenly the little brown head of a young woodcock peeped out from the feathers of the old one's breast, uttering that plaintive cry for which language has no sign. There were two more young woodcocks, and to relieve the anxiety of the *madre* I left her. Near the place where I found her there was a soft green stripe, such as woodcocks love. I had no doubt that the family would be there next day; and, as I passed near, I turned aside to see what they were doing. Upon a dry bank, half-way down the brae, I almost stumbled over a bird, which rose at my feet; and as it darted through the trees I saw that it had something in its claws, and at the same time I heard the plaintive cry of little woodcocks just under my feet. I looked down—there were two; and I thought a hawk had carried off the third, and perhaps killed the mother. This, however, I found, on following the bird, was the old woodcock, which, being flushed again suddenly, after a low flight of

only a few yards dropped what it was carrying—her own young woodcock." This trait may be confirmed by any one who will look out the bird in its haunts, and is all the more interesting as it seems to be quite an acquired one. The bird is in no way adapted to carry its young through the air.

## MUSIC.

THE opening representation on Saturday night at the Royal Italian Opera had the effect of filling the theatre. A few—very few—of the ten-and-sixpenny stalls were unoccupied. But the five-shilling pit-stalls and all the cheaper places, including in particular the shilling gallery, were crowded; and though "La Traviata" is a familiar work enough to the frequenters of Italian operatic performances, there are apparently numbers of persons for whom it possesses all the attractiveness of novelty. Those, too, who only knew it a little may well have taken advantage of the reduction in prices to become better acquainted with it; for to the greater number of theatre-goers the charges usually made at Italian opera-houses are practically prohibitive. A full house at half the customary prices must obviously yield more money than a house less than half full at the customary ones; and it may well be that in an immense opera-house like Covent Garden the appeal now made to the ordinary theatre-going public will be attended with satisfactory results. The Violetta of Saturday evening in the person of Mdle. Nordica made a genuine success. She received neither bouquets nor wreaths at the end of the performance—a matter which, as a rule, concerns the *prima donna* herself much more than the audience—nor was she welcomed on her first appearance with any of the conventional signs of approbation. But she was much applauded after the *brindisi* and again after the duet with Alfredo; and she sang the slow movement of the air "Ah! fors è lui" with so much expression, and the quick movement with so much spirit, that the audience became excited, and, on the fall of the curtain, recalled her with enthusiasm. As an actress she made a good point where, as a rule, no Violetta except Mdme. Patti produces any effect—in the scene, that is to say, where Violetta takes of Alfredo a farewell which he considers only temporary but which she believes to be eternal. Without following Mdle. Nordica's performance scene by scene, it will be enough to say that she acquitted herself well throughout; especially, perhaps, in the "Addio del passato" of the final act, in which she again produced a marked impression. This vocalist possesses one negative and two positive merits: she attempts no elaborate passages that she is unable perfectly to execute, she phrases correctly, and she sings absolutely in tune. It is impossible, then, to listen to her without complete satisfaction. In general style she is not unlike Mdme. Nilsson.

The tenor, Signor Ria, showed at once his readiness and his good-nature by undertaking at the last moment the part of Alfredo, in place of Signor Runcio, to whom it had been assigned. The baritone part was sung most effectively by Signor del Puente, specially associated in the memory of opera-goers with the character of Escamillo, the bull-fighter, in "Carmen." The ultra-sentimental and slightly monotonous air in which Alfredo's father recommends the "sea and soil" of Provence (not at that time disturbed by earthquakes) as a specific for love-sickness was vociferously applauded. As at the briefest notice Signor Ria had replaced Signor Runcio, so with like suddenness Signor Logheder replaced Signor Vianesi, who was to have officiated as conductor. The new orchestral chief showed himself thoroughly qualified for his duties. The accompaniments were well played; and the orchestra particularly distinguished itself in the eloquent violin movement which serves as introduction to the opera, and again in the delicate prelude to the scene of Violetta's death.

"Rigoletto" is announced for to-morrow: Mdle. Nordica as Gilda, Signor Ravelli as the wicked Duke, and a new baritone, M. Lherie, as the jester.

After "the Royal Italian Opera" as directed by Mr. Mapleson, we are to have, also at Covent Garden, "the Grand Royal Italian Opera" under the direction of Signor Lago; and, about a fortnight later, "a Royal Italian Opera season" at Drury Lane under the management of Mr. Augustus Harris. Or, to put the matter more plainly, the present half-guinea season is to be followed by two guinea seasons—one at Covent Garden, the other at Drury Lane; and each of the three enterprises will be given under the title, more or less modified, of "Royal Italian Opera." Signor Lago's principal singers will be Mdme. Albani, Miss Ella Russell, Signor Gayarré, and M. Maurel; counting those only who are actually engaged. He is said, moreover, to be in treaty with Mdme. Pauline Lucca and Signor Mierszwinsky. Mr. Augustus Harris's engagements are not yet announced—possibly are not yet made. But it is already known that two tenors with whom he had entered into negotiations have each asked him £400 a night. This is just twice what Signor Masini receives at Madrid and more than twice what Signor Tamagno receives at Milan. One such tenor would be enough to ensure the bankruptcy of any manager. It would be strange if the *prima-donna* mania were to be followed by a tenor mania. But there are as yet no signs of it; and demands which on the part of Mdme. Patti or of Mdme. Nilsson would be only extravagant are, coming from male vocalists, outrageous. Meanwhile it must be hoped that the manifest revival of interest in a form of entertainment which, as long as people are attracted by combinations of spectacle and song, cannot die out, will not have the effect of causing once more a ruinous competition among managers for the services of first and second-rate singers. There are not too many just now even of both classes; and the joyful news of three London managers having almost simultaneously taken up Italian opera will make them raise at once their heads and their terms.

The time has not yet come for Signor Lago to announce any new works that he may have in view; and Mr. Augustus Harris does not mean to depend on new works, but on a selection from the best Italian operas produced during the last fifty years—from the best days of the Bellini-Donizetti

period until Verdi's "Aida." Of "Otello" there can, it seems, be no question in England until after the work shall have been produced next November at Paris. "Les Pêcheurs de Perles" will be brought out by Mr. Mapleson; and this opera and the new "Otello" are the only operas that are attracting general European attention just now.

### THE STUDY OF MR. GLADSTONE.\*

STUDENTS of Mr. Gladstone must hail with satisfaction any genuine addition to the literature of their favourite science. Mr. Gladstone is not a topic to be taken up as the amusement of a leisure hour, or as the pastime of a few fleeting weeks. He must be studied laboriously and long. The principles by which he is governed can only be ascertained by a patient study of his innumerable utterances and actions. To reconcile the apparent inconsistencies of his career, to appreciate the unity and cohesion of his seemingly purposeless self-contradictions, to perceive the connection between the parts he has played and the reputation he has won, are objects which no common industry and no common insight can attain. Years of patient investigation, and the steady accumulation of millions of details, must precede the final consummation. One by one the laws and principles of the science will emerge from obscurity; and at last, by the supreme effort of some gigantic brain, the evolution of the central theory will be suddenly perfected, the last touch will be put to the scientific edifice, and Mr. Gladstone will be solved. The day of that transcendent discovery has not yet dawned. Thousands are working in the dark, and striking here and there some faint spark of knowledge. The prophet who will make all clear is not yet born, perhaps; and in the meantime we must be grateful to such students as add a little to our knowledge of the facts or shed a new light on some portion of their immense subject.

Mr. Jennings, M.P., has not provided a final solution of Mr. Gladstone; but he has studied him to some purpose, and he has deserved the gratitude of his fellow-students. Mr. Jennings has shown much industry and some ingenuity; but it is open to question whether he has preserved the coolness and impartiality which are requisite for true scientific study. Some critics have accused Mr. Jennings of absolute unfairness. This accusation is unfounded. It is very common to assume that nobody can be fair who comes to hold a strong opinion, and that impartiality consists in saying something on both sides and drawing a colourless conclusion. But men and things are not so constituted as to make all true opinions depend on artful compromise and the striking of averages. Just opinions are often necessarily strong opinions; and the really partial man is he who corrects nature by putting in from fancy the little modifications and compensations which, in his opinion, ought to exist in fact. Mr. Jennings ought not to be blamed for unfairness merely because most of his conclusions are unfavourable to Mr. Gladstone's political character. The ground upon which his conclusions ought to be contradicted, if they can be contradicted, is not their uniformity or monotony, but their insufficient proof. It is not of unfairness that Mr. Jennings can be properly accused. His defect as a scientific student of Mr. Gladstone consists in undue sensibility. He cannot keep his feelings in order. He breaks off into indignant protests, or unavailing regret, just when he ought to be most calm and unmoved in his search for subtle principles and hidden sequences of cause and effect. The most important results of a delicate dissection might be lost if the surgeon gave full scope, at the most critical moment of the operation, to his sympathy with the pain which his subject must have suffered in his lifetime, or with the relations whom his death deprived of their daily bread. The moods which are proper to scientific inquiry and to the expression of moral emotions are essentially different from one another. A candidate for the Mathematical Tripos, who had to do a problem in which the sun played an important part, obtained little credit for calling it "the glorious orb." Mr. Jennings falls too often into the emotional mood. No sooner has he unearthed an instance of gross inconsistency, or described an administrative blunder which gravely injured the country, than he begins to express moral sentiments. The sentiments are respectable in themselves, but they are not relevant to the study of Mr. Gladstone. The moral sensibility of Mr. Jennings does not make him unjust; but he indulges it to the neglect of the more important work of pushing his researches into the unexplored recesses of his extensive subject.

Perhaps the most noteworthy part of Mr. Jennings's book is that which makes positive additions to our knowledge of Mr. Gladstone. Mr. Jennings gives many quotations from certain articles in the *Quarterly Review* which he alleges to have been written by Gladstone. Mr. Jennings has, no doubt, good reasons for what he says, and his statement as to the authorship of the articles has not been denied. These quotations illustrate the vigour with which Mr. Gladstone could attack colleagues from whom he had recently parted and measures for which he was not irresponsible; and they prove that so recently as 1858 and 1859 Mr. Gladstone was inclined to prefer the Conservatives to the Liberals, and was very hostile to the Radicals. In addition to furnishing these new facts, Mr. Jennings has marshalled some old ones with considerable skill. The main effect of his book is to show, once more, that Mr. Gladstone has always been inconsistent in his opinions and unsuccessful in conduct. It is absurd to revile Mr. Jennings for recalling the attention of his fellow-countrymen to these important facts. The facts themselves are hardly ever denied; but it is a not uncommon opinion that there is a want of taste in bringing them into prominence. Mr. Gladstone has established his place in the affections of the English people; the English people are not likely to be wrong: therefore there must be some explanation of his inconsistency and incompetence which would prove them to be compatible with high character and practical

ability. What is the explanation? Well, no one is able to say. The best thing, therefore, will be to say nothing about the defects themselves, and to extend to them that veil of obscurity which necessarily envelops their explanation and apology. This is a very common way of looking at Mr. Gladstone's shortcomings; and the man who tears aside the veil is called a brute and a bungler. But, after all, facts ought not to be forgotten because they have not been explained. They ought, on the contrary, to be repeated and re-examined until some satisfactory explanation is discovered. If the explanation when discovered is incompatible with the favourite theories of some politicians, or even if the explanation turns out to be rather more discreditable to the statesman concerned than the defects which it explains, this result must be honestly faced, and not ignored on the ground that it is too one-sided to be true.

The principal conclusion at which Mr. Jennings arrives, in respect of Mr. Gladstone's extraordinary and incessant changes of opinion, is, that they are to be accounted for by the dictates of personal ambition adapting itself to the fluctuating conditions of political life: that they are—to use Mr. Gladstone's own words—"changes which are systematically timed and tuned to the interest of personal advancement." In the same way Mr. Jennings accounts for the extraordinary series of failures which have marked Mr. Gladstone's political career at home and abroad, by attributing them to his postponement of public to private ends, and to his desire to minister to his own ambition and vanity rather than to the real needs of his fellow-countrymen. Mr. Jennings puts forward weighty arguments in favour of his view; and in particular he shows that Mr. Gladstone has so often retired from a cause which was in danger, or acceded to one which afforded him a chance of personal distinction, that the doctrine of chances forbids the explanation of the facts as a series of mere coincidences. Mr. Jennings is not to blame for accepting these conclusions in so far as they follow from his premisses. No student is under a duty to reject a discovery because it is shocking to his moral sense. But as a student Mr. Jennings ought to keep his moral sense under a stricter control. Had he done this he might have performed his present task more thoroughly. A closer study of the facts which he has collected might have brought to light some further truths as to Mr. Gladstone's character and motives. It would have been Mr. Jennings's duty to set out these truths, without extravagantly rejoicing over what was good or lamenting over what was bad. There are surely other motives influencing Mr. Gladstone's mind at the critical moments of his sudden perversion and unsuccessful enterprises besides the mere yearning for personal advancement. Some of these motives are perhaps better, others worse, than political ambition. But, good or bad, all of them must be ascertained before any theory of Mr. Gladstone can be deemed complete. When some later student completes the work which Mr. Jennings has begun, we shall not only get a more complete view of Mr. Gladstone, who is a much more complicated person than Mr. Jennings seems to suppose, but we shall get some light on a subject which Mr. Jennings leaves very dark: namely, the extraordinary degree of popularity which Mr. Gladstone has succeeded from time to time in arousing.

### CORRESPONDENCE.

#### A BURMESE SUGGESTION.

EDITOR ST. JAMES'S GAZETTE.

SIR,—Read your paper leading article. Much puzzled, I, Nai Khum Khon, Prince of Burma, short time in England, think very long time Irish Question. See map Europe. Heligoland, near Germany; Jersey, Guernsey, Alderney, Sark, near France; Gibraltar, bit Spain; Malta, bit off Italy; Cyprus, off Turkey. All English, all quiet. Germany let alone Heligoland, France let alone Channel Islands, Spain let alone Gibraltar, Turkey let alone Cyprus. All quite quiet. Look map Great Britain. See over St. George's Channel what you call sister-isle, not at all sister, very what you call vixen.

What matter? Why sister-isle vixen? One say me, "You give liberty, come all right." One say me, "You chop heads off, come all right!" Which true way? Neither not? Me come what you call happy thought. English Bishop have house, have wife, have much money. Make every Irishman English Bishop. Irishman say, "English sister-go-brah!" If this religion not good enough for Irishman, give him strait-waistcoat, razor, or free passage Great Eastern Patagonia.—My respects to you, Mr. Editor,  
 March 11. NAI KHUM KHON.

#### LIVERPOOL CATHEDRAL.

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

SIR,—Had the design which is supposed to be the favoured one been for a church like St. Paul's—as your correspondent "H." urges that the Liverpool Cathedral should be—I should not have troubled myself to write upon the subject. There is an opening for a very fine Gothic cathedral or for a very fine Renaissance church like Wren's; but none for one in an impossible "style," compounded of St. Paul's and Peterborough. Your correspondent seems to me to be mistaken in stating that mediæval churches were expressly or necessarily adapted for decentralized worship at side-altars. These were, in most cathedral and other churches, more or less of an accident, the whole building being constructed for hearing Mass from the high altar. I apprehend that, in Mr. Bodley's or Mr. Brooks's purely Gothic designs for the Liverpool Cathedral, there would be very little space from which the pulpit, if placed against one of the corner piers of the transept, could not be seen. "H." writes that it is hardly justifiable to say that a building like St. Paul's does not produce a Christian effect. I do not remember saying that it does not. St. Paul's is at all events good sense, which is the next best thing to religion. But Mr. Emerson's design seems to me to be neither sensible nor religious.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,  
 March 11. C. P.

\* "Mr. Gladstone. A Study." By L. J. Jennings, M.P. (William Blackwood and Son, Edinburgh and London. 1887.)

## THE ST. JAMES'S GAZETTE.

FIFTH EDITION.

REPORTED ATTEMPT TO ASSASSINATE  
THE CZAR.

The *Standard* says:—We have received the following telegraphic message, in cipher, dated yesterday:—"An unsuccessful attempt has been made to assassinate the Czar." The message reaches us from an absolutely trustworthy source, but no further details are given. Yesterday, it will be remembered, was the anniversary of the assassination of the Czar Alexander II., in 1881.

We understand that up to two o'clock no information had been received by the Government in connection with the reported attempt upon the life of the Czar. Sir Robert Morier, our Ambassador at St. Petersburg, has been telegraphed to by Lord Salisbury, and his reply is anxiously awaited.

A Reuter's telegram, dated St. Petersburg to-day, states that the Czar and Czarina, accompanied by the Czarewitch, left there yesterday for Gatchina.

The Press Association is authorized by M. Bouteneff, of the Russian Embassy, to state that there is no foundation for the report published this morning of an attempt to assassinate the Czar. M. de Staal informed another press agency that he had received no telegram regarding the alleged attempt.

An Exchange Company's telegram from Vienna says:—The report has been circulated here that the Czar has been assassinated. The Bourse is very weak in consequence.

A Reuter's telegram from Berlin says:—Nothing whatever is known here to confirm the statement published by a London morning paper to-day, that an unsuccessful attempt had been made upon the life of the Czar.

An Exchange Company's telegram from Paris says:—No confirmation has yet reached here of the reported attempt on the life of the Czar. Yesterday the Anarchists held four meetings here in different quarters of the city to celebrate what they called "the execution" of the Emperor Alexander II. Polish Nihilists made violent speeches.

The Ambassador and *personnel* of the Russian Embassy in London this morning attended the Coronation Service at the Russian Chapel in Welbeck-street to commemorate the Czar's accession.

Since the Emperor's accession to the throne in 1881 numerous plots to murder him have been discovered. On the occasion of his visit to Moscow in 1882 the Cathedral was found to have been mined, and eighty workmen were arrested. In 1883 another plot was discovered in St. Petersburg, and numerous arrests were made. Again in 1884 it was reported that the railway near Moscow was mined with dynamite with the intention of blowing up the train which was conveying the Emperor to the ancient capital. Only a few weeks ago a military plot was alleged to have been discovered in St. Petersburg which was stated to have been directed against the Emperor's life. Several executions were said to have followed.

These last reports naturally recall the circumstances under which the Czar's father was murdered in 1881:—

The Emperor was driving on the Catherine Canal, which runs along the side of the park of the Michael Palace, on his return to the Winter Palace, followed by an escort and his aide-de-camp, the Prefect of Police. The Grand Duke Michael was driving behind, also returning home from the review at the Riding School. After the first bomb, which struck two Circassians, the Emperor alighted to examine the extent of their injuries, notwithstanding that the coachman told him he would bring him in safety to the palace. His Majesty had no sooner left his carriage than the second bomb burst at his feet, breaking both his legs. The explosion shattered all the windows in the intervening space as far as the Imperial Chapel and stables, which are on the other side of the canal. The Grand Duke Michael and the Prefect of Police, De Vorsitzky, rushed to the spot and conveyed the Emperor in the Prefect's sleigh to the Winter Palace. The man who threw the first bomb was arrested; but the second disappeared in the crowd. The Emperor fainted on the staircase of the palace in consequence of the hæmorrhage; but later on he regained consciousness and received the sacrament. Death ensued about four o'clock.

Other Russian Sovereigns have met with violent deaths. Among the Emperors, Paul, son of Catherine II., was murdered in 1801; while his father, Peter III., who was deposed, is also believed to have been murdered. Ivan VI., who came to the throne when an infant, was imprisoned in a dungeon for eighteen years, and was murdered in 1764.

A Reuter's telegram from Philippopolis, dated yesterday, says:—This being the anniversary of the death of the Czar Alexander II. a requiem mass was sung in the Cathedral. A great number of military men and civilians were present.

Thursday last was the Czar's birthday, on which occasion he received many congratulatory messages. The Emperor of Austria sent the following telegram in French. It was addressed in the second person singular—that is, the word *tu* was used instead of *vous* or *votre Majesté*:—"Receive on the occasion of your anniversary my warmest congratulations, with the reiterated assurances of my sincere friendship. The Empress joins with all her heart in my congratulations, and we both form wishes for your happiness, for that of the imperial family, and that of your reign.—FRANCIS JOSEPH." The King of Italy telegraphed as follows:—"I pray your Majesty, in the Queen's name as in my own, to accept the very tender and sincere wishes which we are constantly forming for your happiness, and which we gladly renew on the occasion of your birthday.—HUMBERT."

## THE CAUCUS IN LONDON.

The Exchange Telegraph Company is informed that the London Liberal and Radical Union has completed its constitution. The various London boroughs through their Liberal Associations have sent up more than 500 delegates to the general council, and each London borough has two representatives on the general committee of 116. The representatives of the various London boroughs met a few days ago and elected the executive committee of eight. The election was by ballot, Mr. Firth heading the poll and Mr. Schnadhorst making a fairly good second. To these eight are added—Mr. Morley as president, Mr. Causton as chairman, Professor Stuart as honorary secretary, and Mr. H. W. Lawson as treasurer, making a total of twelve. Mr. J. Renwick Seager has been elected secretary. The union is now in full working order, and with the organization of London before it will have its hands full.

## TERRIBLE RAILWAY ACCIDENT IN AMERICA.

THIRTY-THREE PERSONS KILLED AND FORTY INJURED.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

NEW YORK, March 14.—Intelligence has been received here of a terrible railway accident on the Boston and Providence Railroad. A fast train fell through a bridge about seven miles from Boston. Thirty-three persons were killed and forty injured.

## OPENING OF ALEXANDRA HOUSE.

SPEECH BY THE PRINCE OF WALES.

The Prince and Princess of Wales this afternoon formally opened the Alexandra House, Kensington-gore. The institution specially owes its origin to the Princess of Wales, who in 1883 charged Sir Philip Cunliffe-Owen with a mission to organize a committee in order to consider the best means of providing a home in London for the rapidly increasing class of young women who, desirous of earning their livelihood, were in attendance as students at the various Schools of Art, Science, and Music. The necessity for this committee was for a time obviated by an offer from Sir Francis Cook, of Doughty House, Richmond, to defray the whole cost of the erection and furnishing of a suitable building for the purpose, and to place it, when complete and in full working order, at the disposal of the Princess of Wales. This munificent offer was at once accepted, and communications were opened with her Majesty's Commissioners for the Exhibition of 1851, who, recognizing the project as coming within the scope and terms of their charter, agreed to provide a site for the building. This site was one in immediate connection with the Royal College of Music. The home was formed in connection with the instruction of science, art, and music at South Kensington and the Royal Academy, and only those who can prove they are actually studying can be admitted.

The Prince and Princess of Wales were accompanied to-day by Prince Albert Victor and Princess Victoria of Wales, the Duchess of Teck, Lady Suffield, Miss Knollys, Lord Colville of Culross, Colonel Clarke, and Colonel Arthur Ellis; and among the distinguished company were the Archbishop of Canterbury, Sir George Grove, Sir Lyon Playfair, Lord Cranbrook, Mr. Mundella, M.P., Sir Richard Webster, the Honourable and Reverend E. Carr-Glynn, Lord Charles Bruce, Colonel Hughes-Hallett, M.P., Mr. Arnold Morley, M.P., and Mr. and Mrs. Kendal. Their Royal Highnesses were received by Sir Francis Cook (the benefactor) and the members of his family, Sir Philip Cunliffe-Owen, and Mr. Lucas (of Messrs. Lucas, the builders). Upon entering the building a bouquet was presented to the Princess of Wales by Miss Mabel Cook, and their Royal Highnesses then inspected the premises. Whilst they were passing to the platform in the concert-hall, Dr. Parratt (the organist) played the National Anthem, and upon their reaching the dais, a song of welcome, specially composed for the occasion by Mr. Charles Wood, was sung. Sir Philip Cunliffe-Owen (the honorary secretary) made a report as to the origin of the Home.

Sir Francis Cook then addressed their Royal Highnesses, and said that he was now able to fulfil his promise of two and a half years ago—namely, to present a structure complete in every respect, fireproof, and with the best sanitary arrangements, for the purpose of an institution to be a Home for lady students of art, science, and music. The institution—the first of its kind upon a comprehensive scale—already gave assurance of complete success.

The Princess of Wales, having received the key of the institution from Sir George Chubb, declared the building open.

The Prince of Wales then said: Ladies and gentlemen, before the proceedings of to-day come to a close, I am desired by the Princess to thank both Sir Philip Cunliffe Owen and Sir Francis Cook, for the addresses which they have just read, and to assure them of the great gratification it gives her and all present to open the Alexandra House. (Cheers.) I am sure that we ought to be very much indebted for the great munificence of Sir Francis Cook in having given this very handsome and most useful building. (Cheers.) It will be an immense boon to this part of London and a great advantage to those art-students who have found a difficulty in acquiring suitable lodgings close to the place where they are receiving their education. (Cheers.) I am convinced that in years to come the name of Sir Francis Cook will not be forgotten in South Kensington for the philanthropy he has shown in having this building erected for so laudable a purpose. We ought also to be thankful for the admirable manner in which Messrs. Lucas have constructed the building, and for the works of the late architect, Mr. Purdon Clarke, and Mr. Down; and also we should express our thanks to Mr. Doulton for the handsome presents he has given and the work he has done here. (Great cheers.)

The Prince and Princess and their company subsequently left the building amid cheers.

## THE LIBERAL LEADERS AND REUNION.

The *Northern Daily Telegraph* of Blackburn publishes to-day letters from some prominent Liberals regarding the reports that important concessions had been made to the Unionist Liberals at the Round Table Conference. Mr. Gladstone writes that he fears he cannot with advantage enter upon separate communications on the very important subject referred to; but his questioner may rely upon a firm adherence to the principle and basis of the Irish policy of the late Government. Mr. Labouchere writes that he believes that no intention exists to make any sacrifice of principle in order to win back the dissentient Liberals. "The importance of recent negotiations," adds the writer, "has been much exaggerated by those who had an interest in seeking to lead it to be supposed that our leaders were wavering in their adherence to the above principles. The negotiations were initiated at the desire of Mr. Chamberlain; and Sir William Harcourt, Mr. Morley, and Lord Herschell met that gentleman with Sir George Trevelyan. The discussions that ensued led to nothing, and what is termed the Round Table Conference has not met for the last month. Communications, however, have since passed between Sir William Harcourt and Mr. Chamberlain; and the latter is now aware that if he is to come back to the fold it must be as a follower of Mr. Gladstone and as a supporter of the principles laid down at Leeds. Sir George Trevelyan has separated from him, Lord Hartington has never recognized him as his representative at these conferences and discussions, and I am not aware that any of the dissentients except his friends who were returned to Parliament from certain divisions of Birmingham accept his leadership. He speaks and acts, therefore, rather for a small local and personal clique than for any considerable section of the dissentients."

INVESTITURE AT WINDSOR.

The Queen held a private investiture at Windsor this afternoon of the Orders of the Bath, St. Michael and St. George, the Star of India, and the Indian Empire. The Lord Chamberlain (Lord Lathom), the Duke of Portland, Sir Spencer Ponsonby Fane, and Sir Albert Woods (Garter King-of-Arms) were present. The recipients of the various honours were Colonel William Francis Butler, who received a Knight Commandership of the Bath; Mr. Grant Duff, who received a Grand Commandership of the Star of India; Colonel James Johnston, who was created a Knight Commander of the Star of India; the Honourable Edward Drummond; Major-General Alexander Cunningham, R.E., Thakur Sabeab Bhagwut Singh, of Gondal, Sir Monier Williams, Mr. Alexander M. Rendel, Mr. D. C. McNabb, and Sir George Birdwood, who were created Knights of the Order of the Indian Empire; Colonel W. Carey, R.A., who was made a Companion of the Bath (Military Division); Mr. Gerald Seymour Vesey Fitzgerald and Mr. David Miller Barbour, who were created Companions of the Order of the Star of India; Major Charles Moore Watson, R.E., Major William Hope Meiklejohn, and Surgeon Charles William Owen, who were made Commanders of the Order of St. Michael and St. George; Brigade-Surgeon Henry Elmsley Busteed, Dr. Thomas Beath Christie, Mr. Henry Seymour King, and Mr. William James Maitland, who were created Companions of the Order of the Indian Empire; and Lieutenant-Colonel Lambert, Royal Marine Artillery, who received the Distinguished Service Order. Levée dress was worn.

A HYDE PARK ORATOR SENT TO PRISON.

At the Marylebone Police Court to-day, Francis Comedy, a tailor, was charged with being disorderly, and with assaulting the police. According to the evidence of the police, a man was selling United Ireland yesterday on the footpath outside the Marble Arch, and a crowd collected. The police tried to clear away the crowd, who were causing an obstruction, when the prisoner interfered, and advised them to keep moving but not to disperse. A policeman asked him to go away, whereupon he pushed the policeman and struck him in the face. He was then, with some difficulty, taken to the station. It was stated that the prisoner was well known as a Socialist lecturer. The prisoner denied the assault, and complained that he was roughly and needlessly interfered with by the police. He called witnesses in his defence; but when the magistrate cross-questioned them, the prisoner accused him of acting as prosecuting counsel, and told him to remember that he was not in Ireland. The magistrate, who said he did not believe the police had perjured themselves, sentenced the prisoner to fourteen days' imprisonment.

THE PRACTICE OF THE UNIVERSITY CREWS.

A telegram from Bourne-end to-day says that all the Oxford crew but stroke and No. 7 were taken out tubbing this morning by Mr. Paterson. At noon the new boat was launched, and with Maclean rowing No. 7 the crew started up stream at 30 strokes per minute. After going a quarter of a mile they were brought to; but, resuming, they rowed for nearly a mile. At the Vineyard they swung round, and started for home at 30 per minute, till nearing the bridge, when they quickened, and finished up with a burst at 38 per minute.

In fine bright frosty weather, with little wind and smooth water, the Cambridge crew were afloat at ten o'clock this morning, and paddled at thirty to the Soap Works. Turning there they came back to Alexander's on the ebb, rowing hard, commencing at 34, dropping to 33, and finishing up at 36. The crew were the same as on Saturday afternoon, Mr. Rhodes coaching. They used the new Swaddle.

THIS DAY'S LONDON BETTING.

LINCOLNSHIRE HANDICAP.—6 to 1 agst Fulmen (t), 9 to 1 agst Fullerton (t and w), 100 to 8 agst Pizarro (t), 100 to 8 agst Harpenden (t and off), 100 to 8 agst Isobar (t and off), 100 to 8 agst King Monmouth (t and off), 100 to 6 agst Braw Lass (t), 20 to 1 agst St. George (t and w), 100 to 6 agst Middlethorpe (t and off), 100 to 6 agst Braw Lass (off), 22 to 1 agst Castor (t and off), 25 to 1 agst Cintra (t and off), 25 to 1 agst Stourhead (t and off), 33 to 1 agst Despair (t).

GRAND NATIONAL STEEPLECHASE.—5 to 1 agst Roquefort (t), 100 to 15 agst Spahi (off; 7 to 1 t), 100 to 8 agst Frigate (t and off), 100 to 8 agst Savoyard (t and off), 100 to 8 agst Bellona (t and off), 100 to 7 agst Old Joe (t), 100 to 7 agst Magpie (t and off), 100 to 6 agst Sinbad (t and off).

DERBY.—5 to 1 agst The Baron (t). UNIVERSITY BOAT RACE.—Even on Cambridge (t).

THIS DAY'S MANCHESTER BETTING.

LINCOLNSHIRE HANDICAP.—6 to 1 agst Fulmen (t), 10 to 1 agst Harpenden (t), 12 to 1 agst Isobar (t), 12 to 1 agst Pizarro (t), 100 to 7 agst King Monmouth (t), 100 to 6 agst Braw Lass (t), 20 to 1 agst Middlethorpe (t), 20 to 1 agst St. George (t), 20 to 1 agst Fullerton (off), 22 to 1 agst Tib (t), 25 to 1 agst Castor (t), 25 to 1 agst Cintra (t), 33 to 1 agst Cardinal Wolsey (t), 40 to 1 agst Stourhead (t), 40 to 1 agst Despair (t).

GRAND NATIONAL STEEPLECHASE.—5 to 1 agst Roquefort (t f), 11 to 1 agst Spahi (t), 11 to 1 agst Frigate (t), 100 to 7 agst Savoyard (t).

THIS DAY'S MONEY MARKET.

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

The demand for money in the open market is quiet, and short loans are quoted 2 1/2 to 2 3/4 per cent., the rate of discount being 2 1/2 per cent.

Quarter to Four.

The receipt of weak prices from the German Bourses, accompanied by reports of the assassination of the Czar of Russia, has caused stocks in the Foreign department to be offered, and prices are giving way; but the upward movement that commenced this morning in Home Railways continues, and the market is very strong, with prices marking an important advance. The English Funds are quiet and Consols are a trifle easier. American Securities opened dull, but have since sympathized with other classes, and show a recovery from the lowest points. The rates of contango in this department are from 4 to 5 per cent. Grand Trunk of Canada stocks were firm this morning, but the advance in prices has not been maintained. Mexican Railway issues, however, are buoyant on the supply of stock being less than expected. Russian and Hungarian stocks are weak in the Foreign market; but others are steady, although not at their best points. Suez Canal shares are firm at an advance.

The following are the changes as compared with Saturday's closing prices:— In the English Funds, Consols for money are unchanged at 101 1/2 to 100 1/2; but the price for the account (April) has declined 1-16 to 100 1/2 to

100 1/2. Reduced and New Three per Cents. are unchanged at 100 3/4 to 100 1/2; but New Two-and-a-Half per Cents. have advanced 1/4 to 88 1/2 to 88 3/4.

In Home Railways, Caledonian has risen 1/4, Great Eastern 3/4, Great Northern A 1, Great Western 1 1/2, Brighton A 1, Chatham Ordinary 3/8, the Preference 1 1/4, North-Western 1 1/4, Sheffield A 3/4, Metropolitan 1/2, the District 1/4, Midland 1 1/4, North British 3/8, North-Eastern 1, and South-Eastern Deferred 2 1/4. In Canadian and Foreign Railways, Grand Trunk First Preference stock has risen 1/8, the Second 3/8, the Third 1/8, Canadian Pacific shares 3/8, Mexican Ordinary 1 1/2, the First Preference 3/4, and the Second 1 1/4.

In Foreign Securities, Costa Rica B has improved 1/2, Egyptian Unified 3/8, the Preference 1/2, French Four-and-a-Half per Cents. 1/4, Italian Five per Cents. 1/8, Mexican Old 3/8, Spanish Four per Cents. 1/8, Turkish of 1871 1/2, the Defence 1/2, and Uruguay 1/4; but Hungarian Gold has fallen 3/4, and Russian of 1873 1.

In American Securities, New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio First Mortgage Bonds have risen 3/8, Denver 1/4, New York Central 1/8, Erie 1/8, and Pennsylvania 1/4; but Milwaukee has fallen 1/4, Lake Shore 1/4, Reading 3/8, Union Pacific 1/4, and Wabash Preference 1/4.

The following are some of the rates of continuation current to-day at the Settlement:—Caledonian 1/2 to 1/4 con., Great Eastern 5-32 to 7-32, Great Western 1/2 to 3/8, London and Brighton A 1/4 to 3/8, London, Chatham, and Dover Ordinary 1s. to 2s., the Four-and-a-Half per Cent. Preference 1/2 to 3/4, London and North-Western 5-16 to 7-16, Metropolitan District even to 3/8, Midland 1/2 to 3/8, North British 3-16 to 5-16, North-Eastern 5-16 to 7-16, South-Eastern Deferred 1/2 to 3/8, Grand Trunk of Canada Ordinary 6d. to 1s., the First Preference stock 3-16 to 1/4, the Second 3-16 to 5-16, the Third 1-16 to 3/8, the Guaranteed 1/2 to 3/4, Mexican Ordinary 1/2 to 3/4, the Eight per Cent. First Preference 1/2 to 3/4, the Six per Cent. Second 1/2 to 3/8, Egyptian Four per Cent. Unified 3 to 4 per cent., Hungarian Four per Cent. Gold Renties of 1881 1-16 back to 1-16 con., Mexican Old Three per Cents. 4 to 6, Peruvian Six per Cents. of 1870 5 to 6, the Five per Cents. of 1872 5 to 6, Portuguese Three per Cents. 1 to 3, Russian Five per Cents. of 1873 1/4 to 3/8 back, Spanish Four per Cents. 3/8 to 1/2.

The return of the New York Associated Banks shows a weaker position. The specie has decreased £240,000, and the legal tenders are £40,000 less, making the reduction in the cash £280,000, the total being £20,800,000, or £1,590,000 more than the legal requirement, against £1,815,000 a week ago. The net deposits have increased £220,000, and the circulation has decreased £20,000.

ENGLISH GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.

Table with 2 columns: Security Name and Price. Includes Consols, Reduced Three per Cents, New Three per Cents, New Two-and-a-Half per Cents, India Stock Four per Cent., Ditto Three per Cent., Ditto Four per Cent., Ditto 4 1/2 per Cent., Bank of England Stock, Metropolitan 3 1/2 per Cent.

COLONIAL GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.

Table with 2 columns: Security Name and Price. Includes Canada 4 per Cent. of 1910-35, N.S. Wales 4 p. C. of 1903-5-8-9-10, N. Zealand 4 per Cent. Cons. Ins., Queensland 6 per Cent. 1891-99, S. Australian 4 p. Ct. of 1894-1916, Tasmanian 6 per Ct. of 1893-1901, Victoria 4 1/2 per Cent. of 1904.

AMERICAN SECURITIES.

Table with 2 columns: Security Name and Price. Includes United States 4 1/2 per Cent. Bonds, Ditto Four per Cent., Virginia Funded Bonds, New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio First Mortgage Bonds, Central Pacific Shares, Chicago Milwaukee, and St. Paul, Denver and Rio Grande Shares, Illinois Shares, Lake Shore and Michigan Southern 100-dol. Shares, Louisville and Nashville 100-dol. Shares, New York Central Shares, New York, Lake Erie, and Western 100-dol. Shares, Ditto Preference Six per Cent., Ditto Second Mortgage Bonds, New York, Ontario, and Western Shares, Ohio and Mississippi Shares, Oregon and California Seven per Cent. Preference Shares, Pennsylvania Shares, Philadelphia and Reading Shares, Ditto General Mortgage Bonds, Union Pacific Shares, Wabash, St. Louis, and Pacific Ordinary Shares, Ditto 100-dol. Preference.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN RAILWAY STOCKS.

Table with 2 columns: Railway Name and Price. Includes Caledonian, Great Eastern, Great Northern Ordinary, Ditto A, Great Western, Lancashire and Yorkshire, London and Brighton Ordinary, Ditto A, London, Chatham, & Dover Ord, Ditto 4 1/2 per Cent. Preference, London and North-Western, London and South-Western, Manchester, Sheffield, & Lincoln, Ditto A, Metropolitan, Metropolitan District, Midland, North British, North-Eastern, North Staffordshire, South-Eastern Ordinary, Ditto Deferred, Grand Trunk of Canada Ordinary, Ditto First Preference Stock, Ditto Second Preference Stock, Ditto Third Preference Stock, Ditto Guaranteed, Canadian Pacific Shares, Buenos Ayres & Pac. 7 p.c. Shares, Ditto 7 p.c. Debentures, Lombardo-Venetian, Mexican Ordinary, Ditto Eight per Cent. First Pref, Ditto Six p. Cent. Second Pref, Ditto Six per Cent. Perpetual, Debenture Stock.

MISCELLANEOUS SHARES.

Table with 2 columns: Share Name and Price. Includes Australian Agricultural, Anglo-Am. Brush Light (1/3 paid), Hudson's Bay, National Discount, Peninsular and Oriental Steam, Royal Mail Steam, Suez Canal.

FOREIGN STOCK MARKET.

Table with 2 columns: Security Name and Price. Includes Argentine Six per Cent. of 1868, Ditto Six per Cent. of 1871, Ditto 6 p. Cent. Hard Dol. Bonds, Austrian Four p. Ct. Gold Renties, Ditto Five per Cent. Silver, Brazilian Five per Cent. of 1861, Ditto Five per Cent. of 1871, Ditto Five per Cent. of 1875, Buenos Ayres Six per Cent. of 1883, Ditto Six per Cent. of 1870, Chilean 4 1/2 per Cent. Converter, Chinese Six p. Ct. of 1895, March, Ditto Six p. Cent. of 1895, June, Costa Rica 5 per Cent. Bonds A, Ditto B 4 p. Ct. now 5 p. Ct. 1888, Egyptian Three p. Ct. Guarantee, Ditto Five p. Ct. State Domain, Ditto Four per Cent. Unified, Ditto Five per Cent. Preference, Ditto Four p. Ct. Daira Sanieh, Entre Rios 6 p. Ct. 1886, Ditto 6 p. Ct. Ry. Mortgage, French Three per Cent. Renties, Ditto 4 1/2 per Cent. of 1872, Greek Five per Cent. of 1879, Ditto Five per Cent. of 1882, Ditto Five per Cent. of 1884, Hungarian Gold Renties of 1881, Italian Five per Cent. of 1881, Mexican Old Three per Cent., Ditto of 1864, Norwegian Four per Cent. of 1880, Peruvian Six per Cent. of 1870, Ditto Five per Cent. of 1872, Portugal Three per Cent., Russian Five per Cent. of 1871, Ditto Five per Cent. of 1872, Ditto Five per Cent. of 1873, Ditto 4 1/2 per Cent. of 1875, Santa Fé 5 p. Ct. N. C. Ry. Mort, Ditto 5 p. Ct. Extensions Mort, Spanish Four per Cent., Ditto Two per Cent., Swedish Four per Cent. of 1880, Turkish Six per Cent. Group I, Ditto Nine per Cent. Group I, Ditto Six & Five per Cent., Ditto 4 1/2 p. Ct. Tribute Loan of 1871, Ditto Five per Cent. of 1854, Ditto Five per Cent. Defence, Uruguay Unified Five p. Ct. of 1863.

BANKS.

Table with 2 columns: Bank Name and Price. Includes Anglo-Egyptian, City, Colonial, Consolidated, Imperial Ottoman, London and County, London and Westminster, London Joint Stock, National Provincial (1/12 paid), Union of London.

MINING SHARES.

Table with 2 columns: Mining Share Name and Price. Includes Cape Copper, Indian Consolidated, Mason and Barry, Montana, Mysore Gold, Ooregum Gold, Richmond Consolidated, Rio Tinto, St. John del Rey, Tharsis Sulphur, United Mexican.

TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE SECURITIES.

Table with 2 columns: Security Name and Price. Includes Anglo American, Brazilian Submarine, Consolidated Telephone, Direct United States, Eastern, Eastern Extension, Globe Ordinary, Ditto Preference, India-rubber, Gutta-percha, and Telegraph Works, Oriental Telephone, Telegraph Construction, United Telephone, Western and Brazilian.

TRAMWAY SHARES.

Table with 2 columns: Tramway Share Name and Price. Includes Dublin, Glasgow, Liverpool Un. Tram. and Omnibus, London, London Street, North Metropolitan.

## THE VATICAN.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

ROME, March 14.—At the secret consistory held this morning, the Pope, after announcing the elevation to the cardinalate of the five prelates whose names were telegraphed yesterday, appointed eight bishops for Italy, two for Spain, one for Portugal, and three for the East Indies. The three latter are Monsignor Reed de Silva for St. Thomas of Meliapore, Monsignor Gomez Ferreira for Cochín, and Monsignor Costa for the newly-created see of Darnao.

## FRANCE AND MOROCCO.

(EXCHANGE COMPANY'S TELEGRAM.)

PARIS, Monday.—A telegram from Marseilles announces the arrival there of the Grand Cherif of Morocco. It is stated that he has come to confer with the Government on the frontier question.

## HUNTING A TAME DEER.

Mr. Francis Howe Colam gives the following account of an extraordinary hunting scene which he witnessed on Saturday:—

On Saturday last I was present at an attempt to hunt the celebrated tame deer, which has recently figured in daily performances at Olympia. It appears that the Parisian company, finding the interest in the deer-hunt had somewhat waned, sold the animal to a few gentlemen who announced their first rehearsal to take place on Saturday afternoon at Raynes Park, near Wimbledon, with a pack of beagles. The Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, having been acquainted with the project, organized a body of officers for the purpose of watching the behaviour of the deer and the conduct of the hunters, with the intention of instituting a prosecution for cruelty if necessary. The animal was conveyed to the meet in a box. When the signal was given for it to be uncartered the sportsmen discovered that it preferred to remain in the box; ultimately it was removed by main force. Another difficulty then arose—the deer refused to run. The brave sportsmen hooted, cracked their whips, yelled, and made all sorts of noises in vain. The poor creature, alarmed by the strange conduct of its new companions, which it must have felt to be in painful contrast with the applause it had received at Olympia, at length made a start of a few yards to the right, then stopped short; then to the left, and stopped again. Then it ambled up to the side of an old woman apparently for protection. The field consisted of about fifty lads and men, many of whom were mounted and determined on sport of some kind, perceiving which the deer ventured over a hedge and trotted a few yards to a labourer, whose hand it licked. The mob then became more excited, probably enraged by disappointment; they cracked their whips louder and hustled the poor creature, one of them throwing his hat at its head. Thereupon Superintendent Tallett called up his men and gave them instructions to interpose to prevent violence which seemed to be threatened. Addressing the gentleman in charge of the party, he said, "We are here to prevent cruelty to this domestic animal, and we are determined to do it; I caution you, and hold you responsible for anything that may occur." The master of the hounds, so called (though the hounds had not yet come up), held a consultation with his friends, and then expressed his surprise that the society had interposed, seeing that the deer had been hunted at Olympia for two months past. Superintendent Tallett replied, "That proves that the animal has been domesticated. No cruelty was detected at Olympia or we should have stopped it there." The master of the hounds then said, "We will desist; I will have the deer put up in the cart at once," which was done; and so cruelty was prevented and an unsportsmanlike episode was ended. The party then adjourned to "Squire Blake's" (the beagles having arrived there), where they obtained a wild stag—a strong active animal, which started at a speed that bade something like scornful defiance to beagles and Cockney sportsmen.

## THE HISTORY OF A FRIENDLY SOCIETY.

A parliamentary paper is published this morning giving the official report of the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies for the dissolution of the Independent Mutual Brethren Friendly Society by award, and the report by the actuary to the central office to the Chief Registrar. According to the latter the society was started in London about 1873 by an individual named Scotting; and in 1877, when it undertook sick pay business, its fortunes advanced rapidly, the members increasing from 1,019 in 1878 to 18,646 in 1881. A bait of taking in members of advanced ages at the same contributions as young members, on condition that they paid in cash down an extra entrance-fee of 5s., 6s., or 7s. a year for each year of age over fifty, seems to have proved most successful.

Well-intentioned clergymen and others, the actuary says, were found only too willing to assist in providing these entrance fees for aged parishioners. Many persons themselves appear to have made great sacrifices to obtain the money necessary to enable them to become members, the doors of ordinary societies being closed to them in consequence of their ages being beyond the limits laid down by those societies for new members. These large entrance fees, instead of being treated as a composition in lieu of extra contributions for benefit, were appropriated as fast as they were received in the form of commission, salaries, etc. The money coming into the society's coffers appears to have been literally squandered in the most reckless manner. We find Scotting dabbling in house property and land, buying these with the society's money, having them conveyed to himself, and depositing the deeds with himself and his assistants as trustees or officers of the society. We find William Dally (a co-trustee) installed in a public-house called the Railway Arms, Hornton-street, Kensington, and F. Jude (a former trustee) in another public-house at Dunstable, known as the White Hart Inn. We find Coulson secretary at a salary of no inconsiderable amount; Harry Hill (another trustee) receiving a loan; C. Anderson, a member of the committee, purchasing his house, borrowing the purchase money from the society.

Mr. W. Martin Baker became the society's solicitor in 1879, and soon afterwards his brother, Ernest Baker, was engaged as clerk, and in 1882 as treasurer. Towards the end of 1883 the tide began to turn. The society's annual return to the registrar for 1882 had been sent back to be corrected. There was no ready money available to meet sick pay, claims, etc., and in consequence a general levy on the members had to be proposed. It was not, however, carried out at the general meeting, which instead appointed a committee of investigation, "the members having lost all confidence in the management;" and at a subsequent meeting the committee was asked to resign. Various law suits followed, and affairs culminated in a general meeting in May, 1885, when the auditors for the accounts of 1884 discovered all kinds of frauds in the previous annual returns of the society. The committee, trustees, secretary, and solicitor all presented reports, as well as the auditors. Two trustees were dismissed, and two others, Kingham and Watson, appointed, and various amendments of rules were adopted; but too late to help the society. Money was borrowed from Baker, the solicitor; but a committee in October, 1885, dispensed with his services after an investigation. After this the dissatisfaction regarding the management caused the younger and healthy members to leave by the thousand, and in May last an investigation into the society's affairs was demanded by 100 members, and acceded to by the Chief Registrar. As the result of that investigation the actuary finds—(1) That the funds of the society are insufficient to meet the existing claims; and (2) that the rates of contribution fixed by the society are insufficient to cover the benefits assured to be given by the same. Inasmuch, however, as an immediate award for dissolution would debar the trustees or other persons interested from taking proceedings, which they may possibly be advised are open to them, for obtaining an account and recovering assets belonging to the society, he would suggest that no such award be for the present made. The Chief Regis-

trar accordingly determined, under date of the 19th ult., that he did not consider it expedient at present to award that the society should be dissolved and its affairs wound up.

## MISSIONARIES IN CENTRAL AFRICA.

A Reuter's telegram from Zanzibar says:—A letter from Uganda, dated January 24, states that the Catholic and Protestant missionaries were then all well. Quiet was restored, but the converts were still in hiding.

## SUICIDE OF A MILITARY OFFICER.

Captain Hoskyns, a reserve officer, shot himself at the barracks at Pontefract last night. The deceased had been in India over twenty years and was to leave the service to-day. He formerly belonged to the 14th Regiment and had seen much active service.

## RELEASE OF CROFTERS.

At eight o'clock this morning six crofters from Kilmuir, Skye, who were sentenced by Lord Mure, at the High Court of Justiciary, Edinburgh, last December, to three months' imprisonment for rioting and deforcing a sheriff's officer in Skye, were liberated. They were received at the Edinburgh prison-gates by about 100 sympathizers, who marched in procession to a hotel, where the crofters were entertained at breakfast, and afterwards presented with £1 each to help them to make their journey home.

## A DETECTIVE ATTACKED BY BURGLARS.

Early on Saturday morning, Detective Edward Cooper, of the G Division, was on duty in Pitfield-street, Hoxton, when he noticed two men loitering about. He hid himself, and saw them go to a shop-door, which they soon afterwards left. Cooper, finding that the padlock had been removed, and that there were marks of a jemmy upon the doorway, went after the men, and, in spite of their threats, attempted to take them into custody. One of them struck him on the head with a large jemmy which he took from under his coat. Cooper, however, stuck to his man, but, on being hit a second time on the head with the jemmy, fell to the ground. While he was down he was struck several times, one blow from the jemmy falling on his head and rendering him partly insensible, and the two men, leaving him for dead, hastened away. A few minutes afterwards the officer was found bleeding on the ground by a constable and was taken to the Hoxton police station, where Dr. Oliver examined him, and found him in an extremely exhausted condition. He had sustained three wounds to his head, 2 in. to 3 in. long, and extending down to the bone. It will probably be a considerable time before he will be able to resume his duties. His assailants have not been arrested.

## MARRIAGE OF MDME. CHRISTINE NILSSON.

Mdme. Christine Nilsson was married at the Madeleine, Paris, on Saturday to Count Miranda. The Swedish Minister and M. Ambroise Thomas were witnesses for the bride, the Spanish Ambassador and the Marquess de Casa-fuerte for the bridegroom. Mdme. Nilsson being a Protestant, the ceremony was very simple. After the ceremony the newly married couple returned to the Hôtel Continental, where they found numerous complimentary telegrams, amongst which were despatches bringing them the congratulations of Queen Christina, the Regent of Spain, the Countess of Paris, and Francis II., ex-King of Naples. The wedding breakfast was given at the hotel. Count and Countess Casa de Miranda started for Madrid by the evening express. The marriage contract was signed on Friday, and was followed by a dinner at the Swedish Legation offered by the Prince Royal of Sweden to Mdme. Christine Nilsson and her betrothed husband. During the dinner Mdme. Nilsson received the following congratulatory telegram from the King of Sweden:—"Allow me, Madame, to express to you my sincere congratulations on the occasion of your marriage with Count Casa de Miranda. I hope it will not make you forget your mother country. The Queen charges me to send you her compliments and congratulations.—Believe me, dear Mdme. Christine Nilsson, your always very affectionate, OSCAR."

## THE WEATHER.

Mr. J. H. Steward, of the Strand, writes to say that in the south-eastern district last night there were 14 deg. of frost, in the south-west district 10 deg., and in the Strand district 16 deg.

There was a renewal of the snowstorm in Cheshire this morning. During the night there were 10 deg. of frost. Snow also began to fall heavily in North Wales this morning.

A severe frost was experienced throughout North Staffordshire during the night, and at eight o'clock this morning snow began to fall heavily.

The White Star steamer *Celtic*, from New York, arrived at Queenstown last night after a passage of ten days. During the voyage a huge sea broke on board, burst in the smoking-room, and knocked down a passenger. The bridge was partly wrecked, and the second officer, who was standing on it, was thrown down and severely injured.

The Queen has contributed the sum of £200 to the special fund now being raised by the Corporation of the Sons of the Clergy for the relief of the present distress amongst the clergy. The fund already amounts to nearly £10,000.

Lord and Lady Salisbury, who have been on a visit to the Queen at Windsor, returned to town this morning.

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach returned to 11, Downing-street, on Saturday afternoon, from Basingstoke, after a week's absence from town. He will leave for Germany in the course of the week.

Mr. Labouchere has given notice of his intention to move the reduction of no fewer than fourteen votes in the Civil Service Estimates.

Arrangements have been completed for building a Conservative Club at Portsmouth, and it is expected that a member of the Government will be invited to lay the first stone.

George Aitchison, A.R.A., has been elected Professor of Architecture at the Royal Academy.

A New York telegram says that Dr. Parker is spoken of as successor to Mr. Beecher.

The Beaumont trustees have received from Mr. C. Morrison a second donation of £1,000, to be applied towards paying for the site of five acres for the People's Palace for East London.

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

## MR. CHAMBERLAIN AND LIBERAL REUNION.

Mr. Chamberlain addressed on Saturday the executive council of the Liberal Unionists at Birmingham, at a meeting called to promote the organization of the party and to prepare for a general conference at Whitsuntide. Having quoted Sir George Trevelyan's statement of the basis of the Round Table Conference, Mr. Chamberlain said that as to what took place at the conference his mouth was sealed; it was agreed that their discussions should be, and should always be, secret; but it was open to any one to refer to the speeches which were made by the Liberal Unionist leaders in the House of Commons on the Bills of Mr. Gladstone and again in the country during the general election; and from those speeches it was possible that any one could gather the main points of objection, the principal reasons they had for refusing to pass those Bills. He summarized those objections, not confining himself to the objections which he personally took, but including the objections which were taken by Lord Hartington, Sir George Trevelyan, Sir Henry James, and other of the Liberal Unionists.

In the first place we objected to the Land Bill; we objected to pledge British credit for the benefit of Irish landlords. In the second place we objected to any interference with the full representation of Ireland in the Imperial Parliament. We held that that would be inconsistent with the supremacy of the Imperial Parliament; and we held that it would infallibly tend to a complete separation between the two countries. We urged that the subjects which were to be committed to any legislative authority hereafter to be created in Ireland must be delegated and not surrendered, that they must be strictly defined and limited, and that any new authority so created must be a subordinate and not a co-ordinate authority. In the fourth place we insisted that the maintenance of law and order could not be safely entrusted to a Parliament at Dublin, but must remain under the control of the imperial authority. Fifthly we objected to the financial proposals of the scheme, which, in our opinion, disturbed the financial unity of the empire, and which placed Ireland in the position of a tribute-paying province. Sixthly we objected to the anomalous constitution of the new authority, with its two orders and its property qualification and plurality of votes; and lastly we refused to hand over Ulster, whose enterprise, prosperity, and respect for the law are the brightest spots in the history of Ireland, to be the sport and perhaps the prey of the men who founded the National League, and who a few years ago were correctly described as marching through rapine to the disintegration of the empire.

Could these objections be met consistently with Mr. Gladstone's proposals? If they could, then he and others were ready to accept any scheme for conferring on Ireland a legislative authority to deal with its exclusively domestic concerns. Seeing, as Sir William Harcourt had put it, that the subjects of agreement between them were so many and the topics of difference so few and secondary, how was it they were not all agreed, and why did they appear to be, as he was afraid they were, as far from a settlement as ever? He was totally unable to answer that question.

I do not know (he continued) where the hitch is; all I know is that the longer this delay continues the more serious is the situation. If we do not agree quickly we shall drift further apart. I feel that, as far as I am concerned, I have done what I can, and I say now that I cannot see my way usefully to take any further steps in the matter. There is one man, and one man only, who can restore the unity of the Liberal party, and that is Mr. Gladstone. Mr. Gladstone knows exactly what are the nature, the character, and the importance of the conscientious objections which we took to the proposals in his two Bills. He knows, and he alone knows, whether it is possible for him now to meet those objections. He knows that our objections were not to his principle as he stated it, but to his method of dealing with the Irish question. If he sees his way all difficulty is at an end; in that case a settlement may be arrived at at once. In a short time all the evil history of the past twelve months will seem only as though it were a bad dream.

But they were forced to consider an alternative to agreement. He did not expect any immediate difficulty in Parliament. He had no sympathy with the present lawlessness in Ireland, and was prepared to do anything which would secure the power of punishing the perpetrators of such infamous offences. But he hoped and believed the Government would not stay their hands, and that they would accompany proposals for strengthening the law by proposals, concurrently stated, for amending the law where it required amendment. He hoped that they would give the assurance that they would endeavour to put a stop to the abuse of their rights by landlords. He hoped they would go further than that; that they would be prepared to make one more great effort to deal with the land question, which was at the root of all the evil with which we had to deal in Ireland. He was not inclined to agree with the recommendations of Lord Cowper's Commission. He did not believe in perpetually tinkering with the Land Act of 1881. He thought it very dangerous to be continually tampering with judicial rents, which had all the sanctity of a statutory enactment. What he would prefer, and what he hoped the Government would do, was to put this aside for a still greater measure, for a measure which would have some chance of finality, a measure which would do away for ever with the perpetual conflict between the rights of tenants and the rights of landlords, by making the tenants practically owners of the lands they cultivate. If they took this course he was quite certain that Liberal Unionists would give to them a sufficient and a loyal support, and in that case there would be no early appeal to the country.

But an appeal to the country must come sooner or later, and they must be prepared for it. The last general election and the more recent contest at Burnley showed that they could not get electors to vote for candidates with whom they agreed on a single question only. This led him to the conclusion that they would have to recognize in the future that the Liberal party would be permanently divided into two groups, both groups Liberal, competing with one another in the pursuit of a genuine Liberal policy, each trying, perhaps, which could go farthest in that direction, but differing on the essential and vital question of Ireland. They would have to follow the example which had been set us already in almost every other constitutional country. In France, in Italy, in Spain, in Germany, and to a certain extent in America, although less there than elsewhere, it had been found impossible to arrange political parties in two great divisions, and various groups of opinion had been formed, all able, consistently and thoroughly, to support their particular opinions; and he was convinced it would be their duty to organize, to secure that the Liberal Unionist group, as an organization, was complete, and had a representation as effective as any other section of the Liberal party.

## THE THREE-CARD TRICK.

At the Manchester Police Court to-day a young man named Michael Davitt, was charged with playing the three-card trick in the market on Saturday. The prisoner was doing considerable business when arrested. He was playing under a large umbrella. The prisoner was committed for three months with hard labour.

## SUNDAY BOATING ON THE SERPENTINE.

Taking advantage of the new rules, there was a great deal of boating on the Serpentine yesterday; indeed, the supply of boats was inadequate for the demand. This morning there were some twenty bathers from the usual rendezvous of the Serpentine Club.

## M. DE LESSEPS AT BERLIN.

(EXCHANGE COMPANY'S TELEGRAM.)

BERLIN, Monday.—M. de Lesseps has declared here that he regards the situation between France and Germany as very hopeful. Speaking of the Egyptian question, he has stated that he would solve the present difficulty in that country by the restoration of the Khedive Ismail, in whom he has great confidence.

## THE BULGARIAN QUESTION.

(CENTRAL NEWS TELEGRAM.)

VIENNA, Monday.—A telegram from Sophia states that a ukase is immediately expected convoking the Grand Sobranje for the present month. A political meeting which was held in Sophia yesterday decided to form a patriotic party for the maintenance of Bulgarian independence, the direction being confided to a committee of seven patriots.

## THE INCREASE IN THE GERMAN ARMY.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

BERLIN, March 14.—An imperial order is published to-day relative to the carrying out of the new army law. It directs that the four new infantry regiments to be formed, as well as the four battalions to be added to existing regiments, shall be garrisoned almost exclusively in Alsace, Baden, and the Rhine Province, only three battalions being stationed on the eastern frontier.

## THE NEW ITALIAN LOAN.

(EXCHANGE COMPANY'S TELEGRAM.)

PARIS, Monday.—The *Sicle*, in reply to the denial of the *Temps*, maintains the authenticity of its news concerning the approaching issue of an Italian loan. It may be added that the *Sicle* is the organ of M. Brisson, the late Premier, and is not accustomed to give sensational news.

## MORE BOMBARDMENT BY THE PORTUGUESE.

(CENTRAL NEWS TELEGRAM.)

BOMBAY, Monday.—The correspondent of the *Bombay Gazette* at Zanzibar telegraphs to-day that the Portuguese have bombarded a small place called Niginangao. The loss to British property is estimated at 100,000 dols. Fifty British subjects have suffered great privation, and are still in much misery.

## EXECUTION OF A WOMAN AT LIVERPOOL.

The execution of Elizabeth Berry, convicted of the murder of her daughter at Oldham, took place this morning at Walton Gaol, Liverpool. Berry was the executioner. The scaffold was erected over a deep pit, specially made in a shed in the prison yard. The convict having been pinioned, the procession to the scaffold was immediately formed. It was headed by the chaplain, and the convict came next, with her eyes closed. She was supported by two female warders. On turning a corner which brought her in view of the scaffold she opened her eyes and appeared to faint. She was hurried forward the few remaining paces and quickly placed under the beam. The chaplain read the usual service, to which the unhappy woman made the responses in an audible voice. She also said some additional words which could not be heard by the reporters. The bolt was drawn and the woman fell out of sight. Death seemed to be almost immediate. The convict, being a small and light woman, was given a drop of 6 ft. 6 in. The chaplain states that the culprit was very attentive to his ministrations, but she declared her innocence to the last.

## CAPTURE OF BURGLARS AT LEE.

A burglary was committed at Lee last night. Three men drove up in a pony-cart to the corner of Effingham-road, Burntash-lane, Lee. Two of the men alighted and went into the house of Mr. McDonald, 5, Effingham-road, using a skeleton key to open the door. The neighbours, suspecting something wrong from the noise made in the house, communicated with the police. The man in the cart promptly drove off; but the police entering the house, succeeded in capturing one of the burglars. The other man jumped from a window, and it was thought he had escaped; but it seems that he sustained severe injuries, and hid himself in a cistern. Later on, when the excitement had subsided, he crept back into the house for shelter, and was secured. The men were charged at Greenwich Police Court to-day and remanded. It was stated that one of them named Stallard had previously undergone a long sentence of penal servitude.

## A TALE OF THE SEA.

A poorly clad gentlemanly looking man, who stated that his name was Thomas L. Demoulineys, applied to Mr. Bridge, at Bow-street Police Court to-day for advice and assistance. He stated that he was a medical man, and had received his diploma from the Grant Medical College, Bombay. He was sent as medical officer in charge of some emigrants to Demerara, and before leaving Calcutta he arranged that a portion of his salary should be paid to his wife, who was living there. The ship, on its return voyage, was wrecked, and he and a few others only were saved by a passing vessel. They were conveyed to the West Coast of Africa, and were sent by the Consul to England. He landed at Plymouth penniless. He was anxious to get back to Calcutta, but had been unable to obtain a passage in his capacity as a medical man, as the Board of Trade regulations required a medical officer to be qualified in England. Mr. Bridge granted the applicant some temporary relief and gave him the addresses of some influential gentlemen he thought might be induced to assist him.

## A NARROW ESCAPE.

A man named Stanley had a narrow escape from death at a brewery at Dover on Saturday. Whilst he was painting some machinery his apron caught in a fly-wheel which was making forty revolutions per minute. He was carried up and whirled round, his head striking against the ceiling. He, however, clung close to the wheel, and so avoided further contact with the roof. His shouts were heard by the engine-driver, who stopped the machinery, but not before the wheel had made thirty or forty revolutions. When Stanley was taken down he was stripped of all clothing except his boots; but beyond a severe shaking and a few bruises he was uninjured.

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

## TRAFFICKING IN LIQUOR WITH NATIVES OF AFRICA.

A pamphlet dealing with the subject of European traffic in intoxicating liquors with the natives of Africa has been prepared by the Reverend Horace Waller at the request of delegates appointed by the principal British missionary societies. This pamphlet throws a strong light on a subject of which, perhaps, most people have hitherto heard but little. The evidence contained in the pamphlet brings out the following facts: That in some places the wages of native labourers, even of boys and girls, are paid in spirits; that also, in some places, after an early period of the day, labour is actually not procurable at all on account of the drunkenness of the people; that by some natives spirits alone will be received in barter; and that European traders, who have firmly resisted traffic in spirits, have been driven, in consequence of the general prevalence of such barter traffic, to abandon their trade. It is also shown that a bitter cry for protection against this evil comes in many cases from natives of Africa themselves. The following statement, furnished by Mr. James Irwin, of Liverpool, embodies an account of the extent of the traffic.

It is very difficult to give you an account of the ramification of the drink traffic on the west coast of Africa—not because there is little to be said, but because what is to be said is only a repetition of the oft-told story in every part of the world. It is not possible to get at actual shipments; but I am sure I do not over-estimate the quantity when I put down 60,000 hogsheds of fifty gallons each, as the annual consumption in the rivers of Niger, Benin, Brass, New Calabar, Bonny, Opobo, Old Calabar, Cameroons, etc. In other words, this compressed space lying between 4 deg. 8 min. east longitude, or, say, 250 miles of coast, consumes 20,000 tons, or, say, twenty ships full of 1,000 tons each every year. The amazing thing is that all this traffic is conducted in the main by not over a dozen firms, the members of which are most excellent men, many of them, I believe, sincere Christians.

The Dutch and English Governments in South Africa have witnessed the extirpation of some tribes entirely, as, for instance, the Hottentots, and Mr. Waller does not hesitate to name "brandy" as the agent there. He then goes on to say:—"It is not the less to be deplored when we see, as one outcome of this state of things, a prevalence of Dutch ascendancy in the Cape Parliament at the present time, which renders it impossible for those who would prevent the trade in liquor to succeed in their efforts. The interests of the distillers of 'Cape Smoke' are now studied, the natives in many parts have become too prosperous for some people's way of thinking, and the *mot d'ordre* is to thrust in the brandy cask under the altered régime wherever it is possible."

## M. DE LESSEPS'S VISIT TO BERLIN.

The Emperor William yesterday gave a farewell audience to M. de Lesseps. On Saturday afternoon Prince Bismarck returned M. de Lesseps's call at the French Embassy, and stayed chatting with him for about half an hour. The reception given by M. and Mme. Herbertte on Saturday evening in honour of M. de Lesseps was attended by all the social, diplomatic, and political world of Berlin, the centre of attention naturally being the hero of the hour. The *Times*' correspondent says:—

I do not remember to have seen the spacious apartments of the Embassy on the Pariser Platz crowded with such a brilliant assembly since M. and Mme. de Courcel entertained the Emperor two winters ago; and the new Ambassador and Ambassadress have every reason to be satisfied with the impression which their hearty and unaffected manners as hosts have produced upon the society of this capital. There was naturally much quiet conversation on the political outlook in the East, and the tone of this conversation was decidedly hopeful. For reasons which it is a little difficult to marshal and explain, the Eastern horizon has, for the time being at least, become very much clearer than it has been for weeks back, and this brighter aspect of the political sky was well reflected in the confident feeling of the assembly which last night gathered round M. de Lesseps—himself a life-long apostle of peace. Not the least pleasant reminiscence, perhaps, of his visit to Berlin will be the fact that it was coincident with the time when the threatening clouds in the East of Europe began to lift, or seemed to lift, and that it elicited on the part of the German Emperor and his Court a desire to flatter and conciliate the French people by honouring one of their greatest men.

## AFGHANISTAN.

It is reported that the Ameer, as a precaution against a renewal of the Ghilzai rising, is summoning all the head-men on whom he can depend to assemble at Cabul on Nauroz, or New Year's Day, the date when it is expected the revolt will break out afresh. Vague rumours that the Ghilzais are collecting continue to arrive. Orders have been given at Calcutta for a survey to be made to ascertain the best route for a railway line across the Khowa Amran range, the object in view being a prolongation of the Quetta Railway in that direction.

From Vienna it is reported that instructions have been sent from St. Petersburg to General Alikhanoff, Governor of Merv, ordering him to make preparations for giving a suitable reception to the Khan of Khiva on his passage through Merv, en route for Europe. Before the Khan of Khiva decided to make this journey he inquired as to the state of Russia's relations with Afghanistan, and as to whether complications in Central Asia were to be apprehended. The answer was that Russia's relations with Afghanistan gave rise to no concern. The Khan of Khiva, who leaves the regency in the hands of the heir to the throne, will proceed from St. Petersburg, via Berlin and Brussels, to London, and will return by way of Paris, Vienna, and Constantinople.

## AN AMPLE WARDROBE.

"If to rank as a collector," writes M. C. Pillet, the Paris prototype of Christie and Manson, in the *Débats*, "it is sufficient to have got together the greatest number of articles of the same kind, Mme. Needham, who died recently, deserves a distinguished place in that honourable but whimsical corporation. She has left a collection of toilettes, both secret and apparent, of which the catalogue—for there was one—merits to pass to posterity. It should have been dedicated to the world of fashion and to the artists in dress and style of the generation. It comprised seventy magnificent dresses and costumes of plush velvet, satin, silk, poplin, marceline, etamine, muslin, etc.; all the vocabulary of feminine coquetry is included; fifteen mantles trimmed with the rarest furs, ten muffis; I spare readers the list of dressing-gowns, paletots, peleries, jackets, riding-habits, etc.; more than 150 chemises for day or night wear in silk, cambric, lawn, etc., without counting the *déshabillés* of silk and muslin, nightdresses, chemisettes, peignoirs in innumerable quantities; 40 pairs of drawers of silk, plush, or satin, 70 petticoats, 275 pocket-handkerchiefs, 165 pairs of stockings, 40 of garters, 24 corsets, 100 hats or bonnets, 60 pairs of boots and shoes, and over forty umbrellas, parasols, canes, riding-whips, etc. At the sale, which has just taken place at the Hôtel des Ventes, a dressing-gown realized 3,350 fr., and the total amounted to more than 160,000 fr. What the whole must have cost may be left to the imagination. What a customer Mme. Needham's tradespeople must have lost!"

## THE KENTISH TOWN MURDER.

The police are said to be in possession of information that may lead to the arrest of the men who are supposed to have murdered Mrs. Samuel on Friday afternoon. It is stated that the vehicle in which the murderers drove away was hired in a district so far south as Wandsworth. The police have ascertained that it was engaged by three or four persons answering to the description of the men who were seen driving from the Kentish-town-road down the Bartholomew-road, a short time before the murdered woman was discovered. The police have circulated an "information," which states that three men were observed near the house, 92, Bartholomew-road, at 1 P.M. on Friday, the day when the murder was committed, and again soon after 3.30 P.M., about which time they were seen to leave the house and drive hurriedly away, passing down Islip-street, in the direction of Kentish-town-road. The men's ages were about twenty, and their heights about 5 ft. 4 in.; they were dressed in dark clothes and wore hard felt hats. The cart was a light spring one, painted dark, and the pony was a chestnut. This description depends chiefly upon the recollection of a boy of thirteen, and at the most it only amounts to evidence of suspicion. It is not believed that the blows which led to the death of the deceased woman were dealt with the object of taking her life, but with the intention of stunning her whilst the thieves completed their work of removing the iron safe from the shop to their cart. Finding that Mrs. Samuel was, if not dead, very seriously injured, they are supposed to have realized their dangerous position, and to have relinquished their design of securing the safe in order that they might get away unperceived. There are circumstances which go to show that the robbery was preconcerted, and that one of the persons implicated was not only fully conversant with the premises, but also knew the habits of Mr. Samuel and his wife, and was aware of the fact that as a rule a considerable sum of money was kept in the iron safe in the shop. The time chosen to carry out the robbery, 4 P.M., was just the hour when Mr. Samuel and his servants would be away engaged in serving the customers, when Mrs. Samuel would be left alone in the shop.

A telegraphic communication was received on Saturday from the authorities at Rochester-row police station to which the officers attach much importance, inasmuch as it is thought to afford a clue to the whereabouts of the men suspected of the murder. The substance of this communication is to the effect that early on Saturday morning three men were observed by a constable trundling a truck through one of the streets of Westminster, and, his suspicions being aroused, he stopped the men; and, they being unable to give a satisfactory account of themselves and the contents of the truck, the constable told them that he should examine it, whereupon all the men ran away and succeeded in making good their escape. The constable being unable to arrest any of them, took the truck to the Rochester-row police station, where its contents were examined, and it was found to contain an iron safe about five feet high and 20 in. square, and enveloped in several blankets. The constable was enabled to render a pretty full description of these men, whose proceedings occasioned so much suspicion, and that given by him is believed to correspond exactly with the men now wanted in connection with the murder. The detectives are following up what they believe to be a clue.

## THE BULGARIAN QUESTION.

Twelve non-commissioned officers of the sapper corps who were convicted of participation in the recent revolt have been degraded at Rustchuk. Several associations founded with the object of promoting and sustaining the independence of Bulgaria have issued proclamations condemning the rebels as traitors to their country, and calling upon the people to follow the example of the citizens of Rustchuk in the event of any fresh disorders. The Prefect of Rustchuk has caused to be placarded about the town a notice declaring that the reports of foreign subjects being in danger of massacre are the false inventions of malevolent persons. The sum of 240 napoleons was found on the body of Captain Kristeff, the leader of the revolt at Silistria. A few days before the rising he had deposited in the bank £1,000 (Turkish), which he withdrew immediately after the outbreak. He was known to be a poor man. Lieutenant Filoff, who was one of the principal leaders of the rising at Rustchuk, died on Saturday of his wounds.

MM. Karaveloff, Zankoff, and Nikiforoff, who were arrested at Sophia, have been released on bail. There are (the *Times*' correspondent says) two reasons for this release—first, the trial of the accused cannot be held for some time; and, secondly, the Government desired to facilitate the mission of Riza Bey, who professes the purpose of reconciling all parties. The Government is not sanguine as to his success, but it thinks that no obstacle should be placed in the way of his communications with the various party leaders. M. Karaveloff's complicity in the late insurrections is no longer doubtful. M. Karaveloff has shown himself to be a deep and crafty traitor, and he inspires even more repulsion than M. Zankoff, for he pretended to be very good friends with some members of the Government. Among the letters of Bendereff which have been seized is one which states explicitly that the Russian Government was promoting the projected revolution, and it designates the dragoman of the Russian Consulate at Widdin as the confidential agent with whom the conspirators were to communicate.

A Constantinople telegram says that in a recent Circular to the Powers, including Turkey, the Russian Government requested them to institute an inquiry at Sophia into the alleged maltreatment of the prisoners taken after the late revolt. Most of the Powers, and the Porte also, considered that such an investigation would be an interference in the internal affairs of Bulgaria, and they consequently declined to accede to the Russian proposal.

## THE EASTER MANŒUVRES.

The Commander-in-Chief has appointed Colonel H. H. D. Stracey, Scots Guards, to command the marching column of nearly 4,000 officers and men of volunteer regiments, which will leave London on Good Friday morning for Dover; and commanding officers or adjutants of corps concerned are requested to attend at the Scots Guards orderly-room, Horse Guards, on Wednesday. His Royal Highness has also appointed Colonel F. J. Hercy, 2nd Regimental District (Guildford), to the command of the Eastbourne marching column. It has now been finally decided that there will not be a marching column to Portsmouth at Easter. Only two corps had made applications to take part in it—the Inns of Court and Customs and Docks. With reference to the conveyance of troops to Dover and Eastbourne on Easter Monday, it is officially notified that although the volunteer corps whose attendance is authorized will have to defray the travelling expenses to and from those places, the whole of the arrangements connected with the train service on that day will be made by the Quartermaster-General of the Forces, and the necessary forms must be filled up and transmitted so as to reach the Horse Guards by the 21st inst.

## TRADE AND FINANCE.

The Board of Trade returns for February show that the purchase of British goods by Americans continued. It will be in the recollection of our readers that, although the January and February returns of 1886 were generally unfavourable, owing partly to the severe weather, even then there was shown to be a marked increase in the American purchases of British goods; and, as we pointed out at the time, this was evidence that the revival in trade was making steady progress in the United States. Since then the American purchases of our goods have gone on steadily growing. Now, it is to be recollected that we are comparing with a period when the revival in trade had made decided way in the United States. We find that of the twenty-four leading articles of trade between the two countries to which we usually refer, the total value of the exports in the month of February was £1,839,740, being an increase over February of last year of £291,109, or about 18½ per cent. For the two months of the year the value of the same articles exported to the United States amounted to £3,633,321, being an increase of £432,391, or about 14½ per cent. These are very handsome rates of increase, even if there had been no increase last year; but when it is recollected that we are dealing with an increase upon an increase, it shows that the revival in the United States is now an accomplished fact, and that it is bearing the expected fruit in a decided augmentation of American imports of British commodities. The imports of this kind are likely to go on increasing for some time to come, and cannot fail to have a considerable influence upon the improvement of British trade generally.

The inquiry for money on Saturday in the outside market was less active, as is usually the case at the end of the week, partly because borrowers have to pay two days' interest instead of one. The rate for short loans was 2½ to 2¾ per cent. Discount was in moderate request at 2½ per cent., the supply of fully three months' bills being small.

For the closing day of the week there was considerable activity on Saturday in the stock markets, and a very strong tone pervaded all departments, but more especially that for Foreign securities, and prices of Hungarian and Russian issues were run up sharply on buying to close accounts for the fall, supplemented by purchases for the rise; the latter being based upon the knowledge that those who had oversold stocks would endeavour to get as much as possible of their account closed before the Settlement, which commences to-day. Hungarian Gold Rentes advanced 1½ per cent., Russian issues 1 to 1½, Turkish Tribute Loans ¾, Egyptian issues ¾ to ¾, and some others ¾ to ½. Argentine and Brazilian stocks were firm and ½ to 1 better. The English Funds were strong on the better feeling concerning European politics, the easier state of the money market and the firmness of the Continental Bourses. Brighton A advanced as much as 1½ per cent., South-Eastern A 1¼, North-Eastern 1, and others ¾ to ½. Grand of Canada stocks shared in the improvement to the extent of ¾ to ½ per cent., and Mexican Railway Preference to the extent of ¾ to 1½ per cent., the latter movement being in the First Preference. American securities were a quiet market in comparison with others, and prices closed without much change on the day; but an active market is predicted for this week.

With regard to the reported failures in the Canadian timber trade, it is to be borne in mind that that trade has been in a very depressed state for some years past. It is believed, indeed, that it is still in a very depressed state. Mainly the condition of the trade is attributable to the depression in the building trade at home. Building all over Great Britain was some years ago so entirely overdone that there has followed a crisis; and there has naturally followed extreme depression, and this has caused a falling-off in the demand for timber from abroad. The general fall in prices has likewise, of course, affected the timber trade, like all other trades; and, lastly, that fall in prices, the depression in trade and agriculture, and the various other economic causes that are adversely affecting more particularly the landed interest, have caused a depression in the furnishing trade. All these causes combined have brought about the depression to which we refer. There is one other cause which is affecting the Canadian trade as distinct from the other branches of the trade—namely, that much of the timber which formerly used to be floated down to Canada, and either partially made up there or exported direct to Europe, is now carried direct to New York by railway, and is there partially manufactured and exported to Europe. A portion of the Canadian trade is thus being transferred from Canada to the United States, and the depression of Canada is thereby aggravated.

The Odessa correspondent of the *Daily News* notices two reports current in the south of Russia amongst the commercial community which brings very clearly before us the gravity of the financial disorder into which Russia has fallen. One of the reports is that the Government is about to call in the present paper rouble notes and to issue assignats instead; another is that it will by decree reduce the value of the paper rouble at once by 50 per cent. The paper rouble has already fallen over 40 per cent., and it is likely to fall 50 per cent.; but it is not easy to see what advantage would be derived from either of these remedies. Whether there be any truth in them or not, it is clear that the Government is in extreme straits for money, and probably the real explanation of the reports is that it is issuing paper unknown to the public, and that this issue is the real cause of the rapid fall of the rouble. The silver rouble was originally worth a little over 3s. 2d. of our money; it is now quoted at 1s. 9¾d. It is to be recollected, of course, that silver has depreciated compared with gold, and that, therefore, a considerable part of the depreciation is due, not to the loss of credit by Russia, but to the depreciation of silver. But, over and above the depreciation of silver, there is unquestionably a loss of credit by Russia; and this loss of credit is becoming greater and greater every day. Previous to the Russo-Turkish war the Government had issued 716 millions of rouble paper notes. It had for a long time followed an economical policy, and in consequence the value of the paper rouble had risen to about half a crown. On the outbreak of the war there was a large further issue of paper

roubles in part payment of the military expenses, and the paper rouble instantly began to fall. Since then the discredit into which Russia has fallen has increased, and the depreciation of silver has gone further. According to the last return of the Bank of Russia, the total value of the paper issued by the Bank was a little over 1,078¼ millions of roubles.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

## A CHURCH FOR THE VERY POOR,

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

SIR,—For years past steady Church Mission work has been going on in a district which consists almost entirely of slums and back-streets in the immediate neighbourhood of King's-cross. An extensive parochial machinery has been developed, including, among other agencies, club-house for young men, branch of the Young Women's Help Society, temperance associations, Sunday schools (for which Board schools are rented), crèche, and funds for children's dinners and for children's country holidays.

The great want has been a permanent church to accommodate the increasing congregations of parishioners, and to be an earnest that what has been undertaken for the good of the souls and bodies of the people is meant to endure and to be extended. It was useless to look within the parish for means to do this; the people, with the fewest exceptions, belonging to the very poor poor—costermongers, flower-makers, etc. The cost of the fabric itself was indeed provided for by a sum of money (arising from funds realized by the sale of the site of a City church) set apart by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for that purpose. But the raising of the amount required for the purchase of a site was a very grave task for the incumbent, who had also year by year to find from £200 to £300, exclusive of curate's stipend and rent of temporary church, for the conduct of services, the wages of Mission woman, the maintenance of the parochial agencies, and the relief of the poor. This task he has all but fulfilled. In the course of a few days £2,200 will, all well, be paid to the landlord of the proposed site, and the freehold be vested in the Ecclesiastical Commissioners.

A further sum, however, not exceeding £400, is required to enable the committee to deal with the leaseholders and tenants of the houses on the site. It is for this sum that we venture to appeal to your readers, in order that the building may be commenced at once and carried to completion without delay and without debt.

It needs no words of ours to show how tantalizing it must be to the minister of the district, his workers, and congregation, to find themselves so close to the attainment of their object and yet stopped short for want of a sum comparatively so trifling.—We are, Sir, yours faithfully,

ARTHUR J. INGRAM (Treasurer of the proposed fund), 20, Finsbury-square, E.C.

JOSEPH PEACOCK, Architect, 15, Bloomsbury-square.  
ALBERT MOORE, Incumbent, 1, Argyle-street, King's-cross.

## SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO AUTHORS.

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

SIR,—If your correspondent "One Pound One," whose letter appeared in your columns yesterday evening, has given as little attention to the existing copyright laws and the history of English copyright legislation as he appears to have done to our circular, I am not surprised that he should have arrived at some rather curious conclusions as to any probable action of our Legislature which might result from such influence as the society could bring to bear.

As is shown in our circular, the principal object of this society is to further the passing of the "Copyright Amendment and Consolidation Act." Now the principle which guided us in framing our draft Bill dealing with this question—a Bill which was prepared with the assistance of the Publishers' Copyright Association—was that we should not depart in any important particular from the recommendations of the Royal Commission of 1873, or ask for anything which was not in accord with the traditions of English legislation on this subject.

The gross injustice which novelists now suffer from the unauthorized dramatization of their novels was, of course, remedied, and the question of a work first published or performed outside the British dominions was dealt with in this way. The provision in the existing Acts which obliges an author to publish his work, in the first instance, in the British dominions—and in favour of which a strong prejudice exists—was retained; but the Bill expressly provided that, in the event of any International Copyright Union being hereafter established, this restriction should be removed, and that any work, published in any State which might be or might become a party to such an International Union, should be protected in the same way as though it had been first published within the British dominions.

This Bill has now been in the hands of the Board of Trade for nearly a year.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,  
A. G. ROSS, Hon. Secretary.  
24, Salisbury-street, W.C., March 12.

## ADVERTISEMENTS.

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

CLARKE'S World-famed BLOOD MIXTURE is warranted to cleanse the blood from all impurities, from whatever cause arising. For scrofula, scurvy, skin and blood diseases, and sores of all kinds, its effects are marvellous. Thousands of testimonials. In bottles, 2s. 9d., and in cases containing six times the quantity, 11s. each, of Chemists everywhere.

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

## THE MORNING PAPERS.

## THE ROUND TABLE NEGOTIATIONS.

The *Times* says that it was time for Mr. Chamberlain to tell the public plainly what the Round Table negotiations were intended to effect, and what they excluded as absolutely inadmissible. His explanation leaves nothing to be desired in point of clearness.

The *Morning Post* says that a great bubble has burst, and that Mr. Chamberlain is once more entitled to the thanks of every Englishman who desires the preservation of the United Kingdom. After this speech the *Morning Post* trusts to hear no more about Unionists "sneaking back," and of "the collapse of the Unionist party."

The *Daily News* regrets what Mr. Chamberlain said about the Round Table. It trusts that if needful Mr. Chamberlain may yet see his way usefully to take further steps. He should not leave it entirely in Mr. Gladstone's hands. If Mr. Gladstone knows "exactly what is the nature and character and importance of the conscientious objections" the Liberal Unionists take to his scheme, it does not follow, as Mr. Chamberlain seems to think, that "he alone knows whether it is possible for him now to meet those objections." If he cannot meet them all, might not Mr. Chamberlain fairly be asked to consider how far it was possible for him to modify his objections, and whether the settlement could not take the character of a compromise on points in which full concession on either side is impossible? That, at least, is the spirit in which difficulties are most likely to be solved. This is no time for ultimatums, which mean war and not peace.

## MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S ADVICE TO THE RADICAL UNIONISTS.

The *Times* thinks Mr. Chamberlain gave excellent advice in recommending his friends of the Radical Union to organize vigorously for the assertion of their own principles, though it does not think that in its application Mr. Chamberlain has taken into account all the difficulties of conducting political warfare under a system of groups. It can hardly be desirable to maintain two Liberal Unionist organizations; the followers of Lord Hartington and those of Mr. Chamberlain must work together if they are not to be cut off in detail, and in many cases they will have to ignore party differences and to co-operate with Conservatives in defence of the "great national interests" for which Mr. Chamberlain powerfully pleads. The system of setting up a Liberal Unionist candidate everywhere against a Gladstonian and a Conservative is likely to end, like all such "triangular duels," in damage to the divided interest. Of course it is not easy to get Conservatives, Whigs, and Radicals to work together in the Unionist cause; but does Mr. Chamberlain imagine that there is no difficulty in guiding the Gladstone-Parnell team? Lord Spencer, Lord Granville, Mr. Morley, and Mr. Labouchere, Mr. Whitbread, Mr. Conybeare, Mr. Dillon and Mr. Healy differ at least as widely from one another as Lord Salisbury and Lord Hartington, Mr. Chamberlain and Mr. Smith.

The *Standard* does not believe that the Liberal Unionists can continue to exist permanently as a separate party, unless, indeed, our whole party system is to be broken up and divided into groups. If, therefore, Liberal Unionists will not vote for Conservatives, Conservatives on their side may be excused sometimes for not supporting Liberal Unionists when they may be voting for a man who is prepared to run a race with the Separatists, to see which can pass the most revolutionary measures in the shortest space of time. Yet this is the pleasant prospect Mr. Chamberlain holds up before us. In his newly constituted system we are to have groups instead of parties—one Liberal group for Home Rule and another against it, but both united in pushing forward all Radical measures of legislation as fast as possible. Language of this kind is not calculated to make Conservatives very zealous in preserving the separate existence of the Liberal Unionist party. Such a scheme as Mr. Chamberlain anticipates, however it might resemble the practice of other countries, would strike at the very root of the party principle as it has always been recognized in England, and must involve constitutional changes of a very grave character, for which public opinion is certainly not ripe at present, whatever it may be after the experience of a few more years of parliamentary anarchy and imbecility.

The *Daily Telegraph* regards with some apprehension the proposal of a "three-cornered fight" in all the constituencies of the United Kingdom. To register Liberal Unionist strength is legitimate enough, but to do so at an election and thereby let in a Separatist might prove to be a dangerous game.

The *Daily Chronicle* takes this view: Mr. Chamberlain, apparently, does not assume that Mr. Gladstone will fail to reunite the Liberal party; but he does assume, first, that Mr. Gladstone can alone bring about reunion, and that his failure is at all events "on the cards." But Mr. Gladstone's failure would mean destruction to the Liberal Unionist party were it not prepared for it. Hence Mr. Chamberlain proposes in the meantime to form and found an organization which shall at least enable Liberal Unionists to face Mr. Gladstone's possible failure with equanimity if not with indifference. That the *Daily Chronicle* thinks is the practical outcome of Mr. Chamberlain's scheme for a new "National Radical Union."

## THE ATTEMPT ON THE LIFE OF THE CZAR.

The *Standard* observes that the attempt on the life of the Czar adds greatly at the present moment to the dangers of an already complicated situation. Discontent at home has always in despotic countries been a powerful stimulant to activity abroad, whereby the popular mind is withdrawn from the contemplation of domestic miseries, and the strongest patriotic instincts are called into play. And there is no method by which popular discontent can be brought home more forcibly to the mind of an autocratic ruler than by an attempt to assassinate him. With the resistance of Bulgaria to provoke him, while the preoccupation of Germany tends to free him from restraint; with an enormous army ready to fight, and a strong military and political party urging him to lead it; and with financial embarrassments threatening at any moment to become overwhelming, the Czar already finds the balance between peace and war difficult to adjust on the side of peace. Such an event as that recorded this morning might suffice to turn the scale in the opposite direction. Regarded from this point of view, the dastardly outrage has a significance of the gravest possible character.

## PARNELLISM AND CRIME.

The *Times* publishes to-day the last of the series of articles on "Parnellism and Crime," in which the origin and the character of the so-called "constitutional organization" now closely allied with Gladstonian Liberalism have been analyzed. It claims that the closest confederacy has been established between the chiefs of Mr. Parnell's "constitutional organization" and the blood-thirsty ruffians who, in May, 1885, were feasting in honour of the Phoenix Park butchery, presenting a testimonial to one of the subordinate actors in that "victory," and lauding Joe Brady as "the modern Coriolanus." Is it decent, it asks, that the Gladstonian Liberals should invite the co-operation of politicians who have risen to influence by the aid, pecuniary and other, of the Egans and the Fords?

## THE UNIVERSITY CREWS.

The Oxford crew will not appear at Putney until Wednesday next. They have had plenty of practice in rough water during the past week; for the wind has been chiefly from the east, meeting the stream in the reaches between Bourne End and the top of Bisham Woods. D. M'Clean has settled down to his old seat at No. 7, and Cross has left the boat. The latter did not care for the berth of ninth man, and this place is still filled by Rhodes; Williams having moved from No. 7 to No. 3 since M'Clean (senior's) arrival. The coaching has been chiefly carried on by A. B. Paterson, ex-president; but when the crew reach Putney T. C. Edwardes-Moss will take them in hand. He has been helping Paterson on and off during the past week. The east wind has been trying for any crew, making rough water in the upper part of the Marlow reach, and a cross blast in the waters below the railway-bridge. No crew can show its best form under such circumstances, and some allowance may be made for want of lowness in oar-blades, especially when at a fast stroke. The new boat in which the crew are rowing is full small for them, especially in lumpy water such as has beset them during the last few days. Unless the boat which Clasper is building for them should prove a success, the club will be nearly as badly off on the race-day for a suitable ship as they were last year. The rough weather of the last few days compels men to take extra pains; and if some fine weather should come we shall expect to see the crew settle down to work of a much more even character than that which they have been lately displaying. There seems to be a fair pace on the boat at a brisk stroke, and Titherington succeeds in keeping the reach long, and improves his lift. The accession of such a No. 7 as D. M'Clean makes a great difference to the go of the boat, and adds length all through it. The crew have been doing rather heavy work during the past week; but it is as well to get over reduction of weight a week or two before the race, instead of having the men weak at the last from long and severe courses. The crew will probably lose a little more weight up to this day week, and then feed up again in the scale during the last five days.

Cambridge seems to have settled Sladen at bow. McKenna, the late bow, has been doing duty once or twice at No. 3, vice Landale, who was amiss. The style of the rowing has considerably improved since C. Barclay took No. 7; he is a much better man for such a seat than Landale. The river on the ebb has been rough day after day above Hammersmith, but the crew have been able to arrange to do most of their work on the flood, with smoother water. They did a full course on Thursday, and in exceptionally good time—namely, 19 min. 17 sec. from Putney Bridge to the Ship. They had a rattling spring-tide, nearly smooth water, and such wind as there was blew behind them after they cleared Hammersmith. All these conditions tended to make fast time; but, allowing for this, the performance was a red-letter one, especially for a crew that are at present rather behindhand in practice and condition. Another fortnight of strict diet and hard work will make a good deal of difference in the newly joined men. If such a pace can be got out of the crew when half fit, and at a half-speed stroke, we may expect to see them beat 19 min. in the race, and thereby establish a best on record, if the wind and tide are on the 26th at all like those of Thursday last. There will be a real spring-tide for once on the race-day. It has been said that the race will go about 3 P.M.; but, judging from the height to which the tide rose on Saturday, we do not think that the usual steamers will be able to pass under Hammersmith Bridge after 3 P.M. on the 26th, and possibly not after 2.30. It would be safer to arrange to start about 2 or 2.15 P.M. If at the last the wind should blow from south-west and keep back the tide, a little lay can be taken before launching. But if the day should be like last Saturday, the crews will find the water in the boat-houses, and will have to launch standing ankle-deep in the river, by about 3 P.M.

## BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

## BIRTHS.

**SONS.**  
BELL, Mrs. William, at Disley, Cheshire, March 11.  
BROWN, wife of Mr. B. Hayward, M.A. Oxon., at Sywell House, Rhyll, N.W., March 11.  
HARDING, wife of Mr. Douglas H., of Bromfelde-road, Clapham, S.W., and Sutton Montis House, North Cadbury, Somerset, March 11.  
ROSS, Mrs. Fred L., at Moka, Mauritius, Feb. 4.  
SHEPHERD, Mrs. A. J., at Fairfield, Old Charlton, March 11.  
WOODS, Mrs. Herbert, at Latchford, near Warrington, Feb. 22.

**DAUGHTERS.**  
BERTIE, Lady Caroline, at Staveley Rectory, March 10.  
CAMPBELL, wife of Mr. J. Stratheden, Bengal C.S., at Simla, Feb. 12.  
MORRIS, Mrs. Frank R., at The Old Parsonage, Cheshunt, March 11.  
MUSPRATT, wife of Mr. Sydney K., of Croxteth-road, Liverpool, at Cadogan-square, London, March 11.  
TAUTZ, Mrs. W., at Sutton Lodge, Chiswick, March 10.

## MARRIAGES.

JOLLY—LESTER.—At St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Glasgow, Mr. Sydney B. Jolly, M.B. Cantab., M.R.C.S. Eng., to Maude H., daughter of Mr. William Lester, of Donne-terrace, Glasgow, March 10.  
LARKIN—TRUSS.—At St. Luke's, Osney-crescent, N.W., Mr. John Larkin, of Highbury New Park, to Fanny J., daughter of the late Mr. Edwin Truss, March 10.  
SANKEY—LASCELLES.—At St. Mark's, Kemp-town, Brighton, Mr. William H. Sankey, of Sandiacre, Nottingham, to Louie, widow of Mr. H. J. Lascelles, March 10.  
TUCKER—GORDON.—At Mussoori, India, Arthur R. H. Tucker, Punjab Police, son of Mr. William Tucker, Bengal C.S. (retired), to Rose A., daughter of Major T. Gordon, Bengal Army (retired), Feb. 10.

## DEATHS.

ALLEN, Sidney, son of the late Mr. James P., of Clapham-common, Surrey, at Cheshunt, Herts, aged 39, March 10.  
ANDROS, May F. D., widow of Commander Charles, R.N., at Guernsey, aged 88, March 9.  
ASHENHURST, Elizabeth M., at Nelson-street, Dublin, aged 76, March 8.  
BLACK, Mr. John T., F.R.S.S.A., son of the late Rev. Richard Black, Rector of Hutton, Essex, Feb. 9.  
BURNETT, Montgomery, son of the late Mr. James, of Barns, Peebles-shire, at Bath, March 10.  
CULLETON, Amo, son of Mr. Thomas, of Cranbourn-street, London, and Hampstead, at Columbus, Kansas, U.S.A., aged 22, Feb. 23.  
HAMPSON, Mr. John, at Wisbech, aged 72, March 10.  
HARDING, Emily, daughter of the late Mr. Joseph, of East-end, Finchley, Middlesex, at Brighton, March 9.  
HARRISON, Captain George, late R.N., at Melbourne, aged 82, Jan. 27.  
HEWETT, Mary A., widow of Mr. Thomas, of Great Marlow, Bucks, and Staines, Middlesex, at Acton, aged 90, March 8.  
HUDSON, Hannah S., wife of Mr. George, at Tunbridge Wells, Kent, March 10.  
MORRISON, Frances A., widow of Mr. Alexander, of British Honduras, at Holtham-road, St. John's-wood, March 10.  
PREVOST, Mathilde, wife of Mr. George, at Geneva, aged 71, March 9.  
SANDES, Captain George, jun., 4th Battalion Royal Munster Fusiliers, son of the High Sheriff of Kerry, at the County Club, Tralee, aged 25, March 9.  
TAYLOR, Elizabeth G., widow of Mr. John H., at Wexter-road, Putney, aged 77, March 9.  
YOUNG, William G., son of Mr. Godfrey, of Tulsehill Park, at Adelaide, S. Australia, aged 21, Feb. 6.

STOCKS AND SHARES.

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

COLONIAL GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.

Table listing Colonial Government Securities including Canada, Cape of Good Hope, Natal, New South Wales, New Zealand, Queensland, South Australia, Straits Settlements, Tasmania, Victoria, and Western Australia.

REGISTERED AND INSCRIBED STOCKS.

Table listing Registered and Inscribed Stocks including Canada, C. of Good Hope, Natal, New South Wales, Queensland, Victoria, and W. Australia.

AMERICAN SECURITIES.

Table listing American Securities including Massachusetts, Atlantic First Leased Lines, Baltimore & Potomac, Delaware and Hudson Canal, Denver & Rio Grande, Lehigh Valley, New York Central, River Seven, New York, Norfolk and Western, St. Louis Bridge, Union Pacific, and United N. Jersey Ry.

STERLING BONDS.

Table listing Sterling Bonds including Allegheny Valley, Atlantic First Leased Lines, Buffalo and Lake Huron, Canada Central Five per Cent, Chicago and Grand Trunk, Demerara, Eastern Bengal, East Indian, N.V.C. & Hudson River, Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh & Connellsville, and United N. Jersey Ry.

RAILWAYS.—BRITISH POSSESSIONS.

Table listing Railways in British Possessions including Bombay, Canada, Chicago and Grand Trunk, Demerara, Eastern Bengal, East Indian, N.V.C. & Hudson River, Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh & Connellsville, and United N. Jersey Ry.

BRITISH RAILWAYS.

Table listing British Railways including East London Consolidated, Furness Consolidated, Glasgow and South-Western, Hull, Barnsley, and West Riding, Junction Shares, Lond., Tilbury, & Southend, Mersey, North London Consolidated, and Rhymney.

RAILWAYS.—DEBENTURE STOCK.

Table listing Railway Debenture Stocks including Caledonian, East London, East of London, Great Eastern, Great Northern, Great Western, Lancashire and York, London & Blackwall, London and Brighton, London & Chatham, London & North-Western, London & South-Western, London, Tilbury, & Southend, Manch. & Sheffield, Metropolitan, Metropolitan District, Midland, North British, North-Eastern, North London, North Staffordshire, North-Southern, South-Eastern, and Taff Vale.

FOREIGN RAILWAYS.

Table listing Foreign Railways including Antwerp and Rotterdam, Bahia and San Francisco, Brazilian Imperial, Buenos Ayres, Buenos Ayres and Ensenada, Buenos Ayres and Pacific, Buenos Ayres and Rosario, Central Argentine, Central Uruguay, Conde d'Eu, Dutch Rhenish, East Argentine, Great Western of Brazil, Imp. Brazilian, Lima, Namur and Liege, N.-W. Uruguay, Ottoman, Prov. Orel-Vitebsk, Recife and Sao Francisco, Riga and Danaberg, Royal Sardinian, Royal Swedish, Sambre and Meuse, San Paulo Brazilian, Smyrna and Cassaba, Southern Brazilian, Varna, West Flanders, and West of Buenos Ayres.

LAND COMPANIES.

Table listing Land Companies including Canada Company, Canada North-West Land, Natal Land and Colonization, Newfoundland Land, Otago and Southland Investment, Peel River Land, Scottish Australian Investment, South Australian, S. Austrin. Land Mort. & Agency, and Van Diemen's Land.

TELEGRAPH SHARES.

Table listing Telegraph Shares including Anglo-American Preferred, Cuba, Eastern 4 per cent, Eastern 6 per cent, Great Northern of Copenhagen, Indo-European, London P. Brazilian, Reuter's Limited, Submarine, and Western Union of U.S. 1 M. Bonds.

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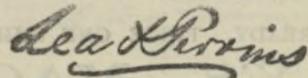
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