

THE
ST. JAMES'S GAZETTE
An Evening Review and Record of News.

No. 2115.—VOL. XIV.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 1887.

PRICE ONE PENNY.

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COVENT GARDEN.
ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA,
COVENT GARDEN.
TO-MORROW (Thursday), March 17th, at 8.30.
Donizetti's Opera

LA FAVORITA.
Fernando, Signor Ravelli; Alfonso XI., M.
Liberio; Balduino, Signor Miranda (his first
appearance); and Leonora, Mlle. Hélène Has-
treiter (her first appearance). The Divertissement
by Mlle. Hayten (her first appearance). Conductor,
Signor Vianesi.

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 5.

DRURY LANE.—AUGUSTUS
HARRIS, Lessee and Manager.
EVERY EVENING, at 7.25: Morning Per-
formance EVERY WEDNESDAY, and SATUR-
DAY, at 1.25, THE PORTY THIEVES.
TO-DAY, at 1.25 and 7.25: 11th and 12th
Performances. Last Nights.

LYCEUM.—FAUST, EVERY EVEN-
ING, 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 o'clock, THE
HARBOUR LIGHTS (42nd time). Mr. William
Terriss, Messrs. Beveridge, Garden, Maclean, Lyndal,
Boleyn, Russell, Wentworth, Travers, &c.; Mes-
dames Millward, Achewch, 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. Hawtre, Wilfred Draycott, W.
Lestocq, 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. Busi-
ness Manager, Mr. E. F. Bradley.

THE SNOWBALL—GLOBE
THEATRE.

THE SNOWBALL—EVERY
EVENING.

THE SNOWBALL.—At 8.45.

THE SNOWBALL—GLOBE
THEATRE.

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

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.
ALICE IN WONDERLAND.—MR.
EDGAR BRUCE'S MATINEES.
TO-DAY and until Friday next, at 2.30, last 3
performances, a Musical Drama play in two acts, by
Savile Clarke, founded on Lewis Carroll's delightful
Stories. Music by Walter Slaughter. Doors open
2.15, commence 2.30. Box-office 10 to 5 daily.

OLYMPIC.
OLYMPIC.—MR. EDWARD
TERRY'S SEASON.—At 9.15, THE
CHURCHWARDEN; at 8, THE TWO BLINDS;
at 8.25, HOME RULE. Last 4 Nights owing to
expiry of lease. LAST MATINEE, Saturday next,
at 2.30.—Acting Manager, Mr. H. T. Brickwell.

GAIETY.
GAIETY THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and
Manager, GEORGE EDWARDS.—THIS
EVENING, at 8 o'clock, MONTE CRISTO JR., by
Richard Henry. Produced by Charles Harris. At
7.30, DIMITY'S DILEMMA, a new farce by
Malcolm C. Salaman. Next MORNING PER-
FORMANCE, SATURDAY, April 16th.

SAVOY.
SAVOY.—R. D'O'LY CARTE, Pro-
prietor 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.—Lessee and Managers,
Mr. E. RUSSELL and Mr. G. F. BASHFORD.
LAST NIGHTS of Mr. Henry Arthur Jones's
play, HARD HIT, at 8. Mr. E. S. Willard,
Mr. Arthur Dacre, Mr. H. Kemble, Mr. Frank
Archer, Mr. P. Ben Greet, Mr. C. Dodsworth, Mr.
U. Winter, Mr. Compton Courts, Mr. Fenton, Mr.
Ferrand, and Mr. H. Beerbohm-Tree; Miss Mary
Rorke, Miss Lydia Cowell, and Miss Marion Terry.
Boxing-office open daily ten to five.
MAN AND WIFE, by Wilkie Collins, in active
preparation.

ST. JAMES'S.
ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Lessee
and Managers, Mr. HARM and Mr. KENDAL.
THIS EVENING, at 8, will be acted
LADY CLANCARTY,
Drama in Four Acts, written by the late Tom
Taylor. The principal characters will be acted by
Mr. Kendal, Messrs. Waring, Mackintosh, Cathcart,
Bedford, Bauer, Mr. De Verney, E. Webster, Hen-
drie, 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 8, DAVID GARRICK. Mr. CHARLES
WYNDHAM; Messrs. G. Giddens, W. Blakeley,
and David James; Mesdames Rose Saker, F. Paget,
E. Miller, and Mary Moore. Preceded by, at 8,
"WHO KILLED COCK ROBIN?" Doors open
at 7.30. N.B.—MATINEE of DAVID GARRICK
on SATURDAY next, at 3 o'clock. Doors open 7.30.

VAUDEVILLE.—THIS EVENING, at
8.30, SOPHIA (26th time), by Robert
Buchanan. Messrs. THOMAS THORNE, Char-
leston, Fred Thorne, Farquhar, Mellish, Grove, Wheat-
man, and LEONARD BOYNE; Mesdames Larkin,
Leclercq, Vonne, 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. Buck-
stone, Paget, Fawcett, Lawrence, Boyle, and Curtis;
Mesdames John Billington, Gwynne, Mayer, Susan
Vaughan, and Miss Kate Vaughan. The Minuet
danced by Miss Vaughan and Company. Preceded,
at 7.45, by A MERRY MEETING.

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

COURT.
COURT THEATRE.—DANDY
DICK, by A. W. Pinero, at 8.30. Messrs.
Arthur Cecil, H. Eversfield, F. Kerr, E. Maurice,
W. H. Denny, W. Lugg, and John Clayton; Misses
Norreys, Laura Linden, Marie Lewis, and Mrs.
John Wood. At 8 o'clock, THE NETTLE. Miss Cud-
more. Mr. Kerr. Box-office open 10 till 5. No fees.

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

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 PER-
FORMANCE EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.

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DE MARGUERIT.
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Experiments of Mesmerism. For the first time in
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OR, THE SECRET OF THE DERVISH,
which has created an enormous sensation before
crowded audiences. Prices 7s. 6d., 5s., 2s. 6d.,
and 1s.

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

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OLYMPIA, ADDISON-ROAD STATION.
SOUTH KENSINGTON. LAST PERFORM-
ANCES. Exciting Chariot and Flat Races, six
Performing Elephants by Mr. S. Lockhart. Eight
Performing Lions by Mr. Seeth, Funniest Obstacle
Race ever seen. Roman Games, Manoeuvre Dia-
bolique by 3 Lady Riders. TO-DAY, 2.30. TO-
NIGHT, 8. Prices from 1s. to £2.2s. Children
under Twelve Half-price to Stalls and Grand Circle.
5,000 Seats at 1s. Box Office (Mr. H. L. Boss) open
10 to 5, and at the principal Agents.

SANDOWN PARK CLUB,
ESHER, SURREY.
THE GRAND MILITARY STEEPLE-
CHASES
will take place at
SANDOWN PARK, ESHER,
On FRIDAY and SATURDAY, March 18th
and 19th, 1887.
Commencing at 1.30 P.M. each day.

Frequent Trains from Waterloo, Vauxhall, Clap-
ham Junction, and other stations as advertised.
The First Special Train (for Members only) will
leave Waterloo Station, from No. 6 Platform, at
12.10 P.M. each day.
Stabling free for horses running at the Grand
Military Meeting. H.W.F.A. WILLIAMS.

ROYAL INSTITUTION OF GREAT
BRITAIN,
ALBEMARLE-STREET, PICCADILLY, W.
Professor F. MAX MÜLLER, M.A., LL.D.,
will THIS DAY (Thursday), March 17, at Three
o'clock, begin a course of Three Lectures on
THE SCIENCE OF THOUGHT.
Subscription to this course, Half a Guinea; to all
the courses in the season, Two Guineas.

ROYAL UNITED SERVICE
INSTITUTION.
LECTURE, FRIDAY, 18th March.
The Chair will be taken at Three o'clock.
Lieut.-Col. J. T. BUCKNILL, late R.E., on
"Personnel for Submarine Mining."
To be followed by a Discussion.
By order of the Council,
BOUGHEY BURGESS, Captain, Secretary.

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SCHOOL for the Sons of Gentlemen."
RADFORD HOUSE, Coventry. Pupils received
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London, March, 1887.

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AUSTRAL .. 5,588 .. 7,000 .. April 14.		
IBERIA .. 4,702 .. 4,200 .. April 28.		
CHIMBORAZO 3,847 .. 3,000 .. May 12.		
POTOSI .. 4,267 .. 3,500 .. May 26.		
ORIENT .. 5,386 .. 6,000 .. June 9.		
GARONNE .. 3,876 .. 3,000 .. June 23.		

Loading Berth, Tilbury Dock.
Fares, £16 16s. to £70. Special Terms for Return Tickets.

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ZANZIBAR	"

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CORPULENCY.—Recipe and notes how to harmlessly, effectually, and rapidly cure obesity without semi-starvation dieting, etc. *European Mail*, October 24th, says:—"Its effect is not merely to reduce the amount of fat, but by affecting the source of obesity to induce a radical cure of the disease." Book, 116 pages (8 stamps). F. C. RUSSELL, Woburn House, 27, Store-street Bedford-square, London, W.C.

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IN ALL, more than TEN THOUSAND WAIFS and STRAYS have been gathered into these Homes, carefully fitted for an industrial career, and then placed out in service at home or abroad.

NO ENDOWMENT of ANY KIND exists, the whole being DEPENDENT on the FREE WILL OFFERINGS of the benevolent.

£16 Will MAINTAIN a BOY or GIRL in the HOMES for a year.

BUT ANY GIFTS, however small, will be GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGED if addressed to the Treasurer, WM. FOWLER, Esq.; to the Chairman of Committee, S. G. SHEPPARD, Esq.; or to the Founder, DR. T. J. BARNARDO, at the

OFFICES OF THE INSTITUTIONS,
18 to 26, STEPNEY CAUSEWAY, LONDON, E.

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Invaluable in all Cases of Weakness.

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London, January, 1887.

THE ST. JAMES'S GAZETTE.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 1887.

NO DATE.

THE Government Bill for enabling the QUEEN'S Government to be carried on in certain districts in Ireland must, at any rate, be under consideration. It therefore becomes desirable to press upon the attention of those who will introduce it one point of great simplicity and immense importance. Whatever the provisions of the Bill may be, they will not be satisfactory if a limited time is specified during which they are to be part of the law. They should be enacted simply, without any reference to time at all. They should come into force at the moment when the Bill receives the royal assent, and then they should be as permanent as any part of the law. That is to say, they should be law until further notice. Magna Charta itself is no more.

The fatal results of applying legislation called—whether correctly or incorrectly—coercive, for a limited time, are apparent enough from the melancholy example of the Prevention of Crimes Act, 1882. That was an excellent Act in every respect but this one, and it produced excellent results as long as it lasted. Yet this one fault neutralized its merits. The present results of its having been passed are that BRADY, KELLY, and a good number of other ruffians are no more; that brave little Mrs. BYRNE and a goodly company of her admirers prefer the western to the eastern side of the Atlantic Ocean as a place of residence; that a problematical number of honest men in Ireland are alive and well, or have died in their beds, instead of having been murdered; and that Mr. JAMES CAREY no longer swells the Nationalist majority in the Dublin Town Council. These results are all very good, but, for the most part, their interest is personal. From the public point of view, inasmuch as they are not characteristic examples of an improved condition of affairs generally, they cannot be counted as gain. This is simply because of the provision in the Crimes Act that it should be in force for three years only. It was more foolish to insert this provision, because there was no one of the main provisions of the Act—saving the power, which was never used, to dispense with juries altogether—which was not an improvement upon the previous law, and might not with advantage have been made a permanent part of the law of England as well as of Ireland. In fact, the adoption of most of them had been recommended, on merely technical grounds, by the Criminal Code Commission as long ago as 1879. The provision was doubtless inserted in order to conciliate opposition. The only opposition that was at once to be apprehended and capable of being conciliated was that of some of the Radical supporters of the Government, who objected to what they chose to miscall coercion. The Government to-day have not the poor excuse for giving a date which Mr. GLADSTONE had in 1882. Nothing they can do will in the least conciliate the opposition of Mr. PARNELL or of either section of his followers. They will find it just as easy to pass the Bill in one way as in another. If it was only proposed to pass it for one year, Parnellites and Gladstonians would do their utmost against it, and they cannot do more, whatever its provisions may be.

The effect of passing a Bill for enforcing obedience to law for a limited, especially for a short, time is simply to put a premium upon sustained lawless agitation. "Only hold out," says the Government of the country to the agitators, "for x years, and then you will compel us to take all this trouble over again. Nay, much more, because just now things are very bad, your behaviour and that of your supporters in the country is getting too outrageous; a very strong feeling is growing up against you in the constituencies and in Parliament. We can, moreover, rely upon the support of the decent part of the Opposition, and, in fact, have every prospect of getting the Bill through. But in 18—no one knows what may have happened. The working of the Act will have thinned the ranks and abated the energy of your deluded victims. The passion for coercion will have cooled down. The decent Opposition may think in good faith that the work is done. Or an old parliamentary hand may throw the burden of renewal upon a powerless minority. In all probability you will be even in a better position at the expiration of the Act than you are now. Therefore, take courage, and, those of you who have any money, go abroad for a little holiday." Of course, a long specified period is not so bad as a short one, but it has all the same faults in a lesser degree. The only plan that can be really effective is to pass the Act—whatever it may be—and say nothing about its termination. As long as it works well it ought to go on being in force. When anybody thinks it oppressive, let him try to

get it repealed. When he does, let the burden of proving that a change is required lie upon him. Then, at least, there will be some security against the Act "expiring" just at the moment when it is most desirable that it should not expire. Even a long period is to be dreaded. Lord SALISBURY said that "after twenty years of resolute government," it might be time to attend to certain matters. Mr. GLADSTONE immediately pretended to think that "resolute government" meant oppression, because, if it did not, why stop at the end of twenty years? Of course Lord SALISBURY did not mean to suggest that resolute government should cease after twenty years, or after twenty thousand years; but the ingenuity of the misrepresentation shows the danger of specifying periods for legislation of this sort. Let the Government propose and carry what it pleases—coercion, amendment of criminal procedure, or specific punishments for boycotting or belonging to the National League. Whatever weapon they elect to try they should have, but, in any case, no date.

M. DE LESSEPS.

M. DE LESSEPS has reason to be delighted with his visit to Berlin. To be sure, it does not satisfy M. de Blowitz. That gentleman, to whom the great Frenchman is the most adorable being in existence, and one whose steps should evermore be "washed in butter," still weeps in public over M. de Lesseps's condescension in going on such an errand. Still must he mourn that "a man of M. de Lesseps's status should, even in appearance, dwarf himself by missions beneath the level of what he is and ought to be." But the wily Frenchman knows well what he is about; and he can laugh at his slim adorer's tears as he reflects upon one grand consequence alone of his visit to Berlin. The Panama Canal scheme is in deadly want of funds; belief in it has been dying out; if we are not mistaken, there is a lottery scheme afoot for the supply of money; for this scheme the assent of a reluctant Government is needed; and after all the great things that M. de Lesseps has done in Berlin, how should that assent be withheld? In any case, how should the people, which has always seen in him its own glorious embodiment, refuse to make another dip into the stocking to which he made such facetious reference in one of his familiar conversations with Prince Bismarck? Here is reason enough alone to justify his doubtless very great condescension in carrying to M. Herbette the decoration recently bestowed upon the representative of the Republic at Berlin. And of course the more that is made of M. de Lesseps's errand, the more his interviews with great personages and the remarkable results of them are trumpeted, the better is it for M. de Lesseps not only as Great Frenchman but as grand financier of the Panama Canal.

Nothing certainly could be more opportune than this visit: impossible that it could have been made under more favourable circumstances. It was certain that M. de Lesseps would be received with the utmost courtesy and treated with the highest distinction. What could it cost? Nothing but the expense of a grand dinner-party or two, and the granting of as many "interviews" for the exchange of well-buttered words. If M. de Lesseps wished to hear that the imperial family took the deepest interest in the Panama Canal, sure he was that he would hear it. If Prince Bismarck and his august master wished for an opportunity of saying how much they detested war in general, and how profoundly they desired to live at peace with France in particular, what better one could they desire—knowing as they did that all they had to say on that point would be communicated forthwith to the three-score newspaper reporters who were certain to waylay their fellow-countryman on his way back to France? They knew their man, and he has fulfilled their expectations to the utmost. M. de Blowitz himself admits that his great friend has been "a perfect godsend for interviewers." He humoured them first at Berlin, and "even while stopping at Cologne he penned a tremendous and unexpected sentence, styling France the natural friend of Germany." And now, "after threatening England with war and ensuring peace with Germany, he is back in Paris," where he is doing the same work through the same channels. He has repeated the assurance given to him (it would seem) by Prince Bismarck, that General Boulanger is free to place the French frontier in a state of defence; that they were wrong who attempted to make people believe that he was the man who wanted war; and that "it was not I who demanded Alsace-Lorraine: it was the military party, who were convinced that Metz and Strasburg were necessary for the security of our frontiers." As for the Emperor himself, the moment he entered the room where M. de Lesseps awaited him his Majesty began as follows: "I am an enemy of war. I will have no more of it. It was with reluctance I made war with Austria, and I deplored the French campaign. We shall not fight as long as I live, unless we are attacked; and I can assure you that my son shares my views. Your presence here gives me great pleasure; for it enables me to affirm to a Frenchman esteemed by all his countrymen, a man who is the representative of an entire nation which I esteem and honour, my inmost ideas on these vexatious diplomatic difficulties [diplomatic difficulties?] that arise from time to time. I

shall always oppose war, for I am convinced that Germany does not wish for it any more than France, and that consequently our diplomatists are working in a field where an understanding is always possible if not always immediate." What could be more explicit or more gratifying than this? And what more natural than that M. de Lesseps should be hailed throughout France as the great peacemaker?

Yet nothing is altered, except in one particular, which is undoubtedly of great importance. Whatever may really have passed between M. de Lesseps and the German Emperor and the German Chancellor, it is certain that these reports of it have greatly allayed the irritation of the French against the Germans; and it is probable that the long-standing irritation against England has increased accordingly. It certainly will not be the fault of M. de Lesseps if this result does not ensue. But we must not believe as readily as his fellow-countrymen do that he has "squared" Prince Bismarck on the Egyptian question, and that now we are to see a Franco-German combination for turning us out of Egypt. It is even doubtful whether Prince Bismarck listened to the Great Frenchman when he opened upon that matter.

NOTES.

Lord Randolph Churchill is to be back in time for the introduction of the Budget; and he will have the great and purely unselfish pleasure of hearing his successor deal with a very substantial surplus. The returns down to the end of last week very nearly complete the revenue returns for the year; and it is certain that in almost every branch, except Excise, the actual receipts have considerably exceeded the estimates. Our revenue has done something to redeem its waning reputation for "elasticity;" and it may be reasonably hoped that we are really entering upon an era of improvement in trade and industry.

The newspaper which affects to be specially well informed as to the intentions of the Cabinet is very indignant at the waste of time over the Procedure Resolutions. It wants to know when "this spectacle of discreditable loquacity is to be brought to an end." As it is understood that the Government do not intend to begin the serious business of the session until after Easter, there seems no particular reason why it should be brought to an end for another three weeks at least. The House may as well fill up its time with Procedure as with anything else. If the Government really wish to put a stop to the discussion, they might arrange for an all-night sitting or two. But this suggestion is emphatically rejected by the *Standard*.

The answer which Mr. Balfour made to the questions asked about Captain Plunkett's telegram to the Youghal district inspector was a very proper one. There is no doubt whatever that shooting is the appropriate means of dealing, in the last resort, with organized resistance to law. It is perhaps true that it is better not to send confidential messages by telegram in a country where a body so powerful and so unscrupulous as the National League is on the look-out for opportunity to steal or buy Government documents of all kinds. But the very climax of shamelessness is reached when this accusation is made by Parnellites and their English friends. "How could you be so careless as to give us a chance of stealing and publishing a document which our poor fellow-patriots were certain to misunderstand, and of which we were certain to make the very worst?" This remonstrance will be useful to Mr. Balfour as an example of the weapons which will be employed against him.

The accounts given of the attempt on the Czar are too vague to be worth much. They are contradictory, too. According to some versions, the dynamitards had managed to get their bomb underneath one of the carriages of the *cortège* when they were seized. According to others, the machine was on the ground and was not actually thrown. The notion of concealing the bomb in a box shaped like a book does credit to the ingenuity of the Nihilists, if such they were; but the suggestion that it would have been necessary to pull a string in order to start the works seems rather improbable. The string was more likely attached for greater convenience of hurling the implement. Of one thing there is no doubt. The attempt was a serious one, and a large number of arrests have been made in connection with it. If it is true that many of the arrested persons are "Constitutionalist" conspirators, and not merely Nihilist desperadoes, the matter looks no better for Europe. The semi-official Berlin paper may be right in thinking that the plot will strengthen the influence of the Panslavists and the war party over the mind of Alexander III.

It is easy for honourable members representing provincial communities to insist that Londoners should give up the coal dues and add another fourpence to their rates. The constituents of these gentlemen do not pay metropolitan rates; while, on the other hand, some of them do sell coal. It is possible that the northern coal-owners would benefit by the abolition of the tax. We do not believe that the reduction of the price of coal by one shilling a ton would allow London to compete as a manufac-

turing town with places which are two or three hundred miles nearer to the fuel-producing districts; but the abolition of the dues might enable a few of the large factory-owners to consume more coal. No doubt the manufacturing gentlemen who memorialized Mr. Smith yesterday have a good case—from their point of view. Only their point of view does not happen to be that of the majority of the London population. We cannot afford to saddle ourselves with an additional rate of fourpence in the pound in order that the gas companies may pay larger dividends, and a few sugar-refiners and potters make better profits.

Parliament is to receive a petition to-day from five thousand leading traders and ratepayers of the West-end, praying that no more public meetings may be held in Trafalgar-square. The honorary secretary of the Petition Committee points out that the signatures represent more than £30,000,000 worth of property. When President Lincoln was asked to take measures for the protection of New York Harbour, by a deputation who urged the number of millions of dollars which they represented as an argument in favour of their petition, he replied that if there was so much money behind them they might as well purchase and equip a gun-boat and present it to the Government to be used for the defence of the harbour. Perhaps the West-end petitioners will be told that they are entirely mistaken in supposing that the payment of rates entitles a man to expect immunity from the misfortunes appropriate to an advanced state of civilization; and that their proper course would be to utilize their great wealth by organizing a corps of window-protectors and riot-suppressors, to act as auxiliaries to the police on occasions when it suits anybody to "demonstrate."

Mr. George Meredith has a chapter in "Rhoda Fleming" which is called "A Study of a Fool." It shows how easily a thousand pounds will melt to nothing in the hands of a dissipated young man if he is only sufficiently foolish. But the Court of Bankruptcy yesterday afforded a much better illustration of this truth. The affairs of that remarkably creditable specimen of an English gentleman, Mr. Arthur Edward Sebright, were under review. It would appear that this amiable youth inherited £18,000 in cash seven years ago and an annuity of £400 a year. The annuity has been sold; the £18,000 have been spent; the "gentleman" had to make an arrangement with his creditors in 1883; and in 1887 he is bankrupt, with unsecured liabilities amounting to over twelve thousand pounds. Mr. Sebright must have made several persons very unhappy in the course of his brilliant career, but it is some consolation to reflect that he cannot have been always quite comfortable himself.

The French Premier has issued a circular to all the Prefects enjoining them to take steps for the absolute suppression of bookmakers at race-courses. "Betting as it is practised is a source of illicit gain for some, a cause of considerable loss, if not of ruin, for the greater number, and a demoralizing principle for all." The Courts of Appeal have so interpreted the law against games of chance as to make betting with bookmakers legal in the paddock but illegal upon other parts of the race-course. But a virtuous democracy, bent on maintaining the primitive purity of its people from the attacks of corrupt outsiders and the example of vicious aristocrats, is not to be foiled by a mere decision of the Court of Appeal. The Premier has consulted the Minister of Justice, and he now informs the Prefects that the decision may be considered as incorrect and invalid. In future all bookmakers are to be sternly suppressed, and all bets made on any part of the race-course will be illegal, except, apparently, such as are made between persons previously acquainted with one another.

A correspondent of the *Standard* who has discovered an author he calls "Lindsey Gordon" does not seem to know the value of his find. He quotes some rattling lines about the dangers of all true sport, beginning—

No game was ever yet worth a rap,
For a rational man to play,
Into which no accident, no mishap,
Could possibly find its way—

and says that the lines are out of print and that the author's "beautiful poems" were bought up and suppressed by his friends. This is not the case. The lines are not out of print, but can be found in the Poems of Adam Lindsay Gordon, which, so far from being suppressed, are on sale in Paternoster-row at this moment. The works of the Australian Béranger were reviewed in these pages about a year ago.

Seldom, even of late, has a matter of greater national importance engaged the attention of the House of Commons than one that was brought under notice last night before the commencement of the more trivial business of the evening. Mr. H. Heaton asked the Postmaster-General whether a principal clerk in the secretary's office of the General Post Office had recently made a complaint, at the instigation of his own daughter, of incivility on the part of certain female clerks in a local post-office at Hampstead; whether, on the reference of this principal clerk, these female clerks were reprimanded for their alleged incivility; whether an impartial inquiry would be made so as to ascertain the real facts of the case; and whether, in the event of the Postmaster-General being satisfied that the complaint was unjustifiable, the censure on the female clerks in question will be officially withdrawn. Mr. Raikes replied that the complaint had been found to be frivolous. The clerks concerned would not be reprimanded.

manded. Assuming the Postmaster-General's statement to be correct, it must be admitted there does not appear to have been any necessity for the question put to him; but it would be more satisfactory if the whole matter were referred to a Select Committee for thorough investigation and report—or, better still, to a Royal Commission with power to examine witnesses on oath.

One of the "men of '98"—the last survivor of the band, no doubt—John Walters by name, has just died at Detroit. Had he lived till to-morrow he would have exactly completed his eighth year over the century. He made his escape from Dundalk in an open boat in December, 1798; and, after drifting about for four days, was picked up by a French vessel bound for America and landed in Boston. Walters, who read the newspaper without glasses up to within a week of his death, was, like most other centenarians, "an inveterate smoker all his life," and he "used liquor in moderate quantities" as well. Rebellion, hardship, danger, tobacco, and alcohol agreed splendidly with John Walters. And yet there are people who think they are sure to live to a hundred if they only keep "regular hours," wear flannel, never excite themselves, and subsist on vegetables and toast-and-water.

"Ah!" says Longfellow, "how wonderful is the advent of spring!" The surprise of the poet would perhaps have been increased had he breathed the atmosphere of London yesterday, and witnessed the condition of the streets. Wind and dust we expect in March, but heavy snow-storms accompanied by dense fogs are not features usually associated with the spring season. It is of no use shutting our eyes to the fact that the spring of the poet is a thing of the past, and has been replaced by a second edition of winter if possible more disagreeable than its predecessor. There is no "sense of renovation" in the modern spring of this country. On the contrary, it is as a rule a deadly season, killing people by the dozens with its sharp east winds and bitter cold. The mischief it causes is in great measure due to the fact that its pestilential effects upon health are not as yet generally admitted. It trades on its old reputation of being a season of "æthereal mildness," and thus induces its victims to put aside their warm clothing, when it strikes them down without mercy and sends them too often shivering to their graves. Nor is it human beings alone that suffer by this genial season. The number of lambs killed by yesterday's snow-storm must have been very large, and a corresponding rise in the price of mutton may be confidently anticipated.

It is curious how little the fashion for *bronzes d'art* has ever taken root in England. In France every sculptor looks to such repetitions of his work as one of his main sources of income. Here, even when some artist of our own has turned out a statue or statuette which would lend itself well to reproduction, nothing of the kind is, as a rule, attempted. At each of the last few Academies there has been something that would make a lovely little bronze. Mr. Thornycroft's "Teucer" or his "Mower," Mr. Gilbert's "Icarus," Mr. Onslow Ford's "Folly," Sir Frederick Leighton's "Needless Alarms"—any one of these would hold its own with the best things of the same kind produced on the other side of the Channel. But not one of them has been published. Whether the fault lies with the public or the artist it is difficult to say; but we incline to think the latter is most to blame, for the number of French bronzes of the same character which are sold for England is very great. Something may be done to help on a change by an exhibition just opened at Messrs. Bellman and Ivey's gallery for sculpture, in Piccadilly. This—the first of its kind—is devoted entirely to *bronzes d'art*. Most of the examples shown are the work of well-known Frenchmen, such as Falguière, Frémiet, and Mariotton. But Italy, England, and Russia are also represented. Of English work, the best example is by a sculptor who is English only by birth, Mr. G. Saul. His contribution is a figure in *cire perdue*. By the same beautiful process there is a statuette by Mr. Waldo Story and a reproduction of the group by M. Boucher, "Au But," which made a sensation at last year's Salon. The Russian bronzes are for the most part curiously Oriental in character. They are not in the least statuesque, and may in the main be compared to the more anecdotic productions of the Japanese. The finest, on the whole, is a "bear rampant," by Professor Lieberich.

The second night of Mr. Mapleson's winter season had much to contend with in the way of weather. On the other hand, the opera was "Rigoletto," and the advertised cast was a remarkably strong one. The tenor difficulty, which on Saturday night had been solved by the substitution of Signor Ria for Signor Stagno no longer existed; for Signor Ravelli, one of the best tenors of the day, had arrived, and to him had been assigned the part of the Duke of Mantua. In the opening air—almost as tuneful as the canzone of the last act—Signor Ravelli sang with taste; though he made his greatest success, as might have been expected, in the opening phrase of the quartet and in "La donna è mobile." This air, which possesses the simplicity and the charm of a popular Venetian or Neapolitan melody, is, once heard, so easy to retain that Verdi is said, when the opera was first being rehearsed, to have cautioned the intended impersonator of the Duke against singing it anywhere but at the theatre. The indiscreet tenor did, however, under the seal of confidence, sing it to one friend, who, without any stipulation at all, sang it to another, until at last it went the round of the city; so that as soon as the opening notes of the gay reckless melody were heard the whole audience joined in with the singer. Gilda last night found a charming representative in Mdle. Lilian Nordica, to whom the part is better suited than even that of Violetta,

which she sang with so much success on Saturday night. In M. Lherie, the Rigoletto of the evening, we had a new-comer, of whom it will be enough for the present to say that he sings with dramatic expression, and that he is better as an actor than as a singer. The whole of the fourth act went admirably, and the audience was again and again roused to enthusiasm.

A Brussels manager has found an ingenious way of inducing the ladies who visit his theatre to divest themselves of their towering head-gear before proceeding to take their seats. A simple notice posted in the vestibule has sufficed to bring about this happy result. "Only ladies of a certain age," it runs, "are allowed to wear their bonnets in the body of the house." So far no lady has claimed the privilege attaching to a "certain age," and the occupants of the back benches can, in consequence, not only hear but even see the play in this theatre without difficulty.

Mr. Russell Roberts, whose wife was recently assaulted and robbed in Westbourne-terrace, writes to the *Times* to combat the optimistic views of the Home Secretary. According to Mr. Roberts, Bayswater swarms with highwaymen; and the comparative fewness of the outrages is due to the fact that no lady dares to go out alone after dusk or during a fog, so that the robbers are compelled to put their trust in sudden fogs and plagues of darkness. Mr. Russell Roberts's letter, however, contains one charge which is more definite than this somewhat vague indictment against a whole parish. He says that his wife subsequently met and recognized the man who assaulted her and gave him in charge to a policeman; but that the policeman took upon himself to weigh the evidence and the chances of a conviction, and refused to make the arrest. The policeman was probably a student of Irish politics and believed in the virtues of a dispensing power.

THE TRAFFIC IN ADMIRALTY DESIGNS.

FROM the correspondent who recently addressed us on this subject we receive the following communication:—

I promised you some details of the transactions which have been attempted or completed with the view of placing foreign Governments in possession of our dockyard secrets. But I feel that, without giving names and places, the examples I could supply would lose their point. For instance, it is within my knowledge that some years ago a junior Admiralty official, who had free access to all the plans of a newly designed armour-clad then being built by private contract, was offered by an agent of the Russian Government £500 for copies of the general plans just showing the outline features of the new design. The sum offered exceeded the English official's salary for three years: he refused the offer. At the present time the same agent, who has continued to act in this country for the Russian Government, would not give more than £15, or at the outside £20, for similar plans and data of our latest naval designs; and an equal reduction has been made by the representatives of other Powers.

But all information of this kind must obviously be vague; and therefore I come at once to matters of a quasi public character. Take, for example, the official appointment of Naval Constructor Hichborne, of the United States Navy, to "make a tour of the dockyards of England, France, Germany, and Italy, for the purpose of observing personally the improvements in naval architecture, particularly in the construction of steel vessels of war." There is one significant passage in Mr. Hichborne's instructions: "The Bureau of Construction will defray his expenses, and wherever practicable he is to obtain vouchers of the same, but where such vouchers cannot be obtained he will keep a record of his expenses." It has been alleged that Mr. Hichborne obtained no information that any naval attaché might not collect; but, even so, we ought certainly to amend our practice, as will be understood from what follows. At Pembroke Dockyard the Americans were supplied with descriptions of the leading features of the design, scantlings, etc., of the barbette men-of-war *Anson* and *Howe*, then in course of construction, and of the partially protected cruisers *Thames* and *Forth*. They also secured a photograph giving a clear perspective view of the constructive detail of the floors, framing, longitudinals, and inner and outer bottom plating of the *Howe*. At Devonport they succeeded in obtaining estate plans of Keyham Steamyard or Machine Factory and of Devonport Dockyard. The naval intelligence collected for them here included extracts from the official specifications of the *Mariner*, *Racer*, *Icarus*, *Royalist*, and *Amphion*, and certain particulars relating to the *Tamar* troopship, then under repair.

At Portsmouth the American Government secured a copy of the estate plans of the arsenal, and extracts of leading points from the specifications of the *Collingwood*, *Camperdown*, *Colossus*, *Impérieuse*, *Polyphemus*, and *Hecla*; together with a large number of fully detailed working plans of the *Calliope*, a detailed midship section of the *Mersey*, and a plan of the fighting-deck of the *Mersey* showing the arrangements of the machine-guns and gun-sponsons, the methods of working the torpedo-discharging tubes, etc. From Chatham Dockyard the Americans got all the leading specified particulars of the fast cruisers *Mersey*, *Severn*, *Arctusa*, *Leander*, and *Phaeton*; also of the armour-clads *Rodney* and *Hero*, a complete drawing of the midship section of the *Rodney*, and some drawings of the system of composite construction of the *Caroline*.

Now there is one important remark to make here. No doubt the United States Government was officially supplied with a great deal of information which we should have more wisely kept to ourselves. But it is inconceivable that it was officially supplied with the detailed plans I have

mentioned, or that it could have obtained those plans without some one, to say the least, exceeding his authority. This consideration is still more cogent in the case of the plans of the dockyards—plans which the Americans (and others, no doubt) have got in fac-simile from our own official plans, with accurate measurements of every square yard of the place. It is impossible to believe that these plans were supplied by order of responsible Admiralty officials. Then, with regard to the drawings of the ships, it is noteworthy that, although Mr. Hichborne obtained plans of the large private ship-building establishments of Messrs. Palmer and Co., Messrs. J. Elder and Co., Messrs. J. and G. Thomson, Messrs. W. Denny and Sons, and Messrs. Harland and Wolff, he does not appear to have gathered any information from any of these firms as to man-of-war construction.

Our European rivals are not a whit the less well informed. They are even more experienced in obtaining, using, and guarding such information. One of the Russian students of the British Royal School of Naval Architecture has from time to time bought up in this country every design and set of Admiralty plans and specifications for a period of at least fifteen years. Members of the construction staff of the Admiralty are sometimes openly engaged upon the work of copying sets of man-of-war plans and designs for parties outside of the Admiralty. Not very long ago there was some stir in the construction staff of the Admiralty because the traffic in copies of man-of-war plans was being worked in too reckless a manner. Some little changes were made to check the business; and the matter was hushed up, without any of the transgressors being punished more severely than by being removed from one employment to another.

Chatham Dockyard was in trouble about the year 1875; when it was discovered that the French Government had obtained possession of certain official reports, plans, and specifications of novel appliances and fittings then being employed in the armament and equipment of H.M.S. *Alexandria*. I should also state that a great feeling of suspicion has been roused in regard to some of the employes of the drawing offices of Portsmouth Dockyard; and consequently, it would appear, certain changes have been made in this yard. There was much talk of cosy dinners and friendly convivialities between the official agents of foreign Governments and the dockyard employé selected to escort them over the establishment. For this post there was a spirited competition amongst draughtsmen, although it does not entitle the holder to any extra pay or advantages. It was finally decided that this employment should not go to one man, but that four draughtsmen should in turn act, week and week about, as escort and informant-general to foreign visitors.

Finally, let me say a word as to actual attempts at bribery. Foreigners now do not want more plans of the general features of British naval designs because their stock is complete; at present they only require the detailed working drawings of the construction of the hull and machinery of our newest ships, and they pay even less for this information now than they formerly did for outline plans. In particular, within the last eighteen months I have heard of sums amounting to £250 being on offer by foreign agents for each set of detailed plans of the *Nile* and *Trafalgar* (armour-clads) and the *Surprise* and *Alacrity* (cruisers).

A TRAINING SCHOOL FOR COLONISTS.

To land a young man, fresh from school or college, in the United States or a British colony with £10 in his pocket, to shift for himself, is an easy method of getting rid of him, at least for a time; and it is one which has found much favour among parents who, from want of means or influence, are at a loss for careers suitable to their sons in this country. In some instances, no doubt, the plan has succeeded; but experienced colonists tell us that the proportion of failures among young men of the middle or upper class, sent out without any training for colonial life, is terribly large; and the result is said to have been disastrous almost as often where an untrained lad has been entrusted with a few hundred pounds of capital. Most of this cash, as a rule, has quickly been taken from him by the sharpers who are always on the look-out for "tender-feet" with money; while the rest has commonly been lost through lack of knowledge of the business in which the possessor has invested it.

With the object of meeting these difficulties, Mr. Johnson, a Suffolk farmer, well known in his own district, conceived the idea of founding a College and Training Farm for youths who intend to emigrate. His plan was to afford the means of acquiring not only a theoretical knowledge of agriculture, but also, and chiefly, practical training in farm-work and in various handicrafts a knowledge of which is invaluable to a settler in a new country. On making his proposals public to some extent, Mr. Johnson met with great encouragement. But his scheme was an ambitious one, and Mr. Johnson found much difficulty in raising the capital to carry it out; although he was able to show one of the most influential lists of patrons that ever appeared on the prospectus of a private undertaking. At last, however, the Colonial College and Training Farms Company was established; a fine estate of over 1,300 acres at Hollesley Bay, Suffolk, was purchased, and the college was quietly opened in the latter part of January.

Hollesley Bay is about eight miles from Woodbridge, a town which can be reached in two hours by a fast train from Liverpool-street. The college estate is situated on the north side of the bay, and therefore faces the south. This is a great advantage on the east coast. The soil is dry, with a subsoil of sand or red crag, and for the most part fertile. The farm consists of arable land, pasture, woodlands, and heath, and is thoroughly well fitted for the training of students in all branches of farming. The River Alde runs parallel with the sea along the whole breadth of the farm, thus affording opportunities for training in boating, pontooning, and swimming. The land is suited for all kinds of live stock; and the breeding and fattening of cattle, sheep, and pigs, as well as dairying, are carried on upon the estate. Outdoor training is the great fea-

ture of the institution; and the students at the present period are occupied in ploughing, harrowing, rolling, drilling, hoeing, gardening, feeding sheep and cattle, weaning calves, milking, dairying, carpentering, learning to ride, and assisting in or watching the building of the extension to the college required to accommodate applicants for admission. A large new dairy, smiths' and carpenters' shops, and various other outbuildings are to be also erected; and the students are to help in the work as far as they are able, felling small oaks for posts, getting them ready, and assisting in placing them. They are presently to be taught to kill and dress stock, to cut up and cure meat, to survey land, to shoe a horse, to weld a bar of iron, to put up rough buildings, to mend harness, to drive a farm engine, to shear sheep, and much beside. The students at present at the college seem to enter thoroughly into the spirit of the undertaking, cheerfully engaging in all kinds of work as they are directed.

With so much to do out of doors, it is not to be expected that much can be done in science. The aim is, however, to teach at least the rudiments of the sciences connected with agriculture—such as chemistry and geology. The staff is not yet complete, but, so far, it is an extremely good one. One of the best grounds for hoping in the success and usefulness of the undertaking is the fact that it is principally under the charge of men who are practically acquainted with agriculture, advised by others who have had experience of colonial farming.

A young man, after spending two years at the Colonial College, ought to be fairly trained for his future career in a new country—that is, as far as he can be trained before he gets there. No amount of teaching in England can render him independent of colonial training; and he must in all cases finish his business education in the country he intends to adopt. Still, he may learn a great deal that will be useful to him at least as well in England as in a colony, and a very little colonial experience will do the rest. Instead of going out shiftless and untrained in the work of the farm, and without knowledge of farming and stock-management, he will proceed to his destination well fitted to take a situation on a farm, to earn his living by work, and so to complete his training.

IMITATION COMMODITIES.

In France a stringent law against sham butter has just been promulgated. A heavy fine, with from six days to six months' imprisonment, may be inflicted for selling it as true butter. It is specially worth noticing that the use of the name "butterine" is absolutely prohibited. Any substitute for butter must be labelled as margarine, oleomargarine, or *graisse alimentaire*. So much for the views of French legislators on this imitation name for an imitation commodity.

The grounds on which the secretary of the "Butterine Defence Association" pleads for the retention of this name in England cannot be regarded as conclusive. They amount, in fact, to a begging of the whole question. It is urged (1) that the name of "butterine" has been known for many years; (2) that it may be found in standard dictionaries; and (3) that it is actually employed in the official publications of the Board of Trade. To this the very obvious replies are: (1) That it is the experience of the "many years" during which butterine has been so called which supplies the reasons for a change of name; (2) dictionaries, when they are elastic enough to admit them, do not determine the moral expediency of "trade" or technical terms, but simply record their use; (3) every speaker and writer about butterine must of necessity employ that name until it is authoritatively superseded.

The matter can only be wisely settled by the enactment and enforcement of a rule applicable to imitation commodities of all kinds. This rule should be based on the principle, that no part of the name of any article shall be applied in the naming of any other substance made to imitate it or which is intended to be used in a similar way. One of the reasons for such a rule was suggested in the *St. James's Gazette* a year ago, and it was this: that, by putting an imitative commodity on the market under a name which veils or shades off the fact of the imitation instead of contrasting it with the generic term, a way is kept open for the practice of fraud. The history of butterine fully proves the justice of this proposition; which may be thus restated:—Suppose A to represent a well-known article of daily use. An inventive genius discovers a likely method of largely superseding it by a substance of very similar appearance, and which can be applied to the purposes of the genuine article. This he calls by the name of "A 1." Why? The reason is plain. The name of the succedaneum suggests—however erroneously—but one remove from the original commodity that it leans upon, and from which it unlawfully borrows a misleading gloss. The manufacturer—however innocently—makes it profitable for himself by making fraud easy to the retailer. It gives, in a word, their "cue" to all tradesmen who are impatiently dissatisfied with the present rate of profit.

But if the rule suggested were in force, the maker would be compelled to deal in his imitative commodity under the title of "B:" though, for that matter, all the other letters of the alphabet are at his disposal. The name of the imitation article should be "contrastive and not assimilative" with the article imitated. In fact, the greater the similarity between the articles the greater should be the contrast between their names.

A further illustration of these remarks is furnished by the recent considerable "transaction" in "poivrette." It would have obviously damaged its chance of success to offer ground olive-stones on their nominal merits as a suitable material for the adulteration of pepper. Under the name of "poivrette," however (the "A 1" of our argument), hundreds of traders found how conscientiously they could apply the adulterant to the fraudulent purpose for which it was intended. The warmest advocates of "butterine" agree that the selling of it as butter should be punished; but they will not allow themselves to see that, as long as the name of "butterine" is retained, its sale as "butter" is greatly facilitated and

encouraged. If butter were a patented commodity, it is quite likely that its proprietor could obtain a perpetual injunction against the use of the word "butterine" as applied to an article so closely resembling it and which is used for identical purposes. The interests of the public are at least as worthy of consideration as those of an individual proprietor.

COLERIDGE.*

THE wonder and astonishment with which the "purest ray serene" of Coleridge's intellect affected all those who knew him have scarcely ever been aroused in an equal degree by any other personality. "All other men whom I have ever known," said Southey, "are mere children to him." "He is like a lump of coal rich with gas," wrote Scott, "which lies expending itself in puffs and gleams, unless some shrewd body will clap it into a cast-iron box and compel the compressed element to do itself justice." "He is the only person I ever knew who answered to the idea of a man of genius," said Hazlitt. "He is," said De Quincey, "the largest and most spacious intellect, the subtlest and most comprehensive that has yet existed among men." "Byron and Scott," wrote Landor, "are but as gun-flints to a granite mountain" when compared with him. Wordsworth and Lamb gave the still deeper testimony of a lifelong tenderness of devotion, which there was nothing but the greatness and purity of his spirit to arouse in them. Carlyle and others gave like witness; though sometimes it was blurred with irritable censure, which probably rose rather from their own limitations than Coleridge's. The deliberate verdict of time has confirmed the justice of these first impressions; although the mass of mankind, ever ready to take a man at his own valuation, has adopted Coleridge's humble estimate of himself as a "wasted life," and although it has been of late the fashion, among such as "hate the happy light" they cannot extinguish under the blackness of their materialism, to try to prove him a plagiarist of his thoughts and a hypocrite in his profession of belief in them. Even many of those who are most indebted to him for the force with which he has advocated their principles have been shy of him or have disliked him, because in his speech those principles have shone forth with a, to them, startling and repulsive reality, and an increase of obligatory character, which has made them shrink back with an "Ugh, ugh! the horrid things: they are alive!"

A "wasted life," indeed! Coleridge has written of politics with the greatest power of awakening men to a living apprehension of the immediate and infallible connection of universal principles with consequences of universal import. In religion, what Newman has done for the Church of Rome, that Coleridge has done for the Church of England: he has supplied it with the all but overwhelming argument that a perfectly disinterested heart and a mind of the subtlest and strongest quality and the widest modern culture can accept its teaching with satisfaction. In art, he has written poems, not long, indeed, or many, but enough to set before the poets of all future time a model of (in its way) an almost unapproachable perfection. In criticism he has combined the breadth and subtlety of Hegel with the clearness and solidity of Goethe. This is Coleridge's public work; and the public has little reason to trouble itself as to whether he took too much of an anodyne that was necessary to allay the agonies of internal disease, or whether the mistake that he and Miss Fricker made in marrying was or was not great enough to justify an informal separation. But since the public will pry into these things, and all sorts of hard and untrue judgments have been passed upon Coleridge by all sorts of men, from the somewhat cold and pharisaical Southey to the author of the shameful "Liber Amoris," it is a good thing that he should have found in Mr. Hall Caine a biographer who, without concealing or glossing over anything, can judge with somewhat of the wise and truthful sympathy with which the great seer was regarded by those truest and tenderest of natures, Wordsworth and Lamb. Coleridge's life was, in reality, one of singular innocence, humility, integrity, and laboriousness. Beyond the comparatively venial fault of making an unsuitable marriage—and for him probably any marriage would have been unsuitable—and that of seeking release from incessant bodily pain, and consequent intellectual disability, in that which procured for him seasons of ease and splendid mental clearness at the expense of intervening periods of profound nervous depression, there is extraordinarily little matter for moral censure in the poet's history. He has never been suspected of having broken the bond between himself and his wife by any immorality. When he was himself otherwise penniless, he caused the whole of the comfortable pension allowed to him by the Wedgewoods to be devoted to the support of his wife and children. When every minute's work was a martyrdom, he worked many hours daily in order to keep himself from being dependent upon people who would have been proud to have supported him, and in order to supply his son's expenses at the university; and in this work he showed an almost heart-rending humility and self-abnegation; for, when such prose and poetry as no one else living could write failed to produce the very limited means required for his necessities, he turned at once, and without giving himself any grand airs, to the very lowest literary drudgery, even that of condensing parliamentary and police reports for newspapers. There was no honest means of getting a livelihood which he did not try, when there seemed the slightest chance of succeeding in it; and he appeared no more angry or surprised at the products of his proper genius not "paying" than Isaiah or the author of the Song of Songs would have been at a similar failure. Byron and Scott pillaged "Christabel" of its most wonderful charm, its new accentual metre, before that poem was published; but, when it came out, Hazlitt declared in the *Edinburgh Review* that it was "the most notable piece of impertinence of which the press had lately been guilty," and *Blackwood* and other leading authorities followed suit. *Blackwood*

pronounced the "Biographia Literaria" to be "wild ravings," and coupled its author with Joanna Southcott. Southey, meanwhile, who might have done anything with the *Quarterly Review*, never lifted his voice to stem the torrent of abuse of writing of which he must have well known the merit, though by doing so he would have relieved his brother-in-law and former friend of most of the temptations to failures which he was forward to condemn. Let those who, by mere force of genius, are disabled from making a living, cast a stone if they will at this great Englishman for his supposed lack of independence. As for the charge so bitterly brought against himself, of having "wasted his life," it was probably altogether erroneous. Men of such genius as Coleridge's never waste their lives. An aloe might just as well be said to waste its life because it does not flower every month, like a China rose.

CORRESPONDENCE.

"ADMIRALTY CURIOSITIES."

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

SIR,—Permit me to bear witness to the accuracy of the facts and figures in your article of to-day under the above heading. Nearly ten years ago I was, with certain other colleagues, cut off in the prime of official life by an insidious disorder called "Reorganization," which from time to time has proved fatal to so many valuable public servants. Since that time we have been doomed to walk the earth in enforced idleness, with fat pensions, in full vigour of body and mind, and with every prospect of being a burden to the country and to ourselves for many a year to come.

A lingering sense of the duty of official reticence restrains me from telling the secrets of my late prison-house. Enough to say that the specious estimates of economy which induced the Treasury to sanction the reorganization scheme of 1880 have ended, as your statistics show, in a large annual increase of expenditure; while the most competent judges will not, I venture to think, assert that there has been any improvement in the conduct of business.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

March 15.

AN EX-ADMIRALTY CLERK.

FISHER AMES ON THE UNION OF IRELAND WITH GREAT BRITAIN.

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

SIR,—There could hardly be severer judges of the conduct of England to Ireland or to any other country than the American statesmen of the Revolutionary epoch. One of these, however, Fisher Ames, says: "In the late attempt to unite Great Britain and Ireland, the project, in spite of Ministerial influence, was at first rejected by the Irish Commons. *The public reasons were strong, the public good plainly called for the Union; yet passion and prejudice opposed the measure.*" (Works, Vol. II., p. 154.) Ames is perfectly aware of the means adopted to carry the measure, since he cites the difficulty with which it was carried as a proof of the limited efficacy of corruption.

I do not remember to have seen in the writings or speeches of any American statesman in days before Irish immigration and the growth of the Irish vote, any invective against England for the suppression of Irish independence, though there was plenty of invective against her for other things.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

Toronto, March 1.

GOLDWIN SMITH.

THE SCOTCH CIVIL SERVICE.

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

SIR,—A recent article in the *St. James's Gazette* on the Scotch Bar mentions incidentally a custom which has grown into a grave abuse—namely, the appointment of members of the Faculty of Advocates to all the desirable posts in the Civil Service, instead of making promotion to these posts, as in England, the reward of merit in the several departments. There are no great prizes to be won in Scotland, but there are a few fairly paid offices. Let us see how these are filled:—

Registrar-General	An Advocate.
Secretary to the Registrar-General	do.
Queen's Remembrancer in Exchequer	do.
Chairman Board of Supervision	do.
Secretary Board of Supervision	do.
Secretary Board of Lunacy	do.
Secretary Board of Northern Lights	do.
Chairman Prisons Commission	do.
Secretary Endowed Schools Commission	do.

Now, Sir, there is not one of these posts which could not be as well filled by a member of the permanent Civil Service as by a lawyer—presumably a "stickit" lawyer, for otherwise he would not be so ready to abandon his profession for work of a totally different nature. The explanation is, that for at least two generations Scotland has been cast, tied and bound, into the hands of the Lord Advocate, who naturally thinks that "there is nothing like leather." But what would be said in England if the whole Civil Service patronage were vested in the Attorney-General, and if he were to fill up all the permanent under-secretaryships and assistant under-secretaryships from the briefless Bar? But this is precisely what takes place in Scotland, where, too, it must be remembered that, relatively to the size of the country, there are many more strictly legal offices available than in England.

It may be hoped that, with the creation of the office of Secretary for Scotland, a new system will be introduced, and that Scotch civil servants may hope to rise in their departments as their merits deserve.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

March 13.

X.

* "Life of Samuel Taylor Coleridge." By Hall Caine. (London: Walter Scott, 1887.)

THE ST. JAMES'S GAZETTE.

FIFTH EDITION.

THE PLOT AGAINST THE CZAR.

OFFICIAL STATEMENT.

A Reuter's telegram from St. Petersburg to-day says:—With reference to the discovery of a plot to assassinate the Czar, the *Official Messenger* to-day publishes the following communication:—"On the 13th inst., towards eleven o'clock in the morning, three students of the St. Petersburg University were arrested on the Nevsky Prospect, and on being searched bombs were found upon them. The prisoners declared that they belonged to a secret criminal society. The bombs, which were immediately taken from them, proved, on being examined by experts, to be charged with dynamite and leaden balls, the latter being filled with strychnine." The *Official Messenger* states that the Czar and Czarina came to St. Petersburg yesterday morning from Gatchina to be present at a rout given by the Grand Duke Vladimir, and returned to Gatchina in the evening.

The Russian Ambassador has received several letters and personal visits from the diplomatic corps in London expressing thankfulness at the escape of the Czar and horror at the projected attempt. Several of the Ambassadors to the Court of St. James's have called at the Russian Embassy to convey similar sentiments, and Lord Salisbury and other members of the Cabinet also have expressed to M. de Staal their congratulations upon the Czar's escape and their horror at the attempt.

DETAILS OF THE PLOT.

At length we have details of the plot against the life of the Czar. The fullest accounts are given by the St. Petersburg correspondents of the *Times* and the *Standard*. The despatch of the former is dated Sunday (the day of the attempt), and that of the latter is dated Monday, showing that the delay in the transmission of the news is due to the stoppage of the telegrams by the Russian censorship. The *Times*' correspondent says:—

To-day the Nihilists have made another attempt to repeat their dastardly crime of just six years ago—happily, however, without any success. They adopted exactly the same plan and tactics. To-day being the anniversary of the assassination of Alexander II., the imperial family attended divine service before the tomb of the late monarch in the cathedral of the Neva fortress, and the Emperor and Empress, accompanied by the heir-apparent, were to drive on their way back from the fortress along the Nevsky Prospect and through the Grand Morskaia-street, and so on to the Warsaw Railway Station, to take train for Gatchina. These two principal thoroughfares were crowded with gaily dressed promenaders, as usual on Sundays and imperial holidays.

Fortunately, it appears that before the imperial party had left the fortress the police telegraphed thither, stating that grave suspicions had been aroused as to the safety of the intended route, and advising their Majesties to take another road. The Czar and Czarina were therefore driven along the Neva Quay and by a circuitous route which enabled them to avoid the town. This was about two o'clock in the afternoon—the same hour, it will be noticed, at which was struck the knell of the late Emperor; and, to make the resemblance still more remarkable, it was also Sunday afternoon. Meanwhile, the secret police-agents, who always throng the streets through which the Emperor passes, had been watching one or two suspected individuals hanging about the pavements near the corner of the Nevsky and Great Morskaia, and had arrested one with a bomb or grenade under his arm. Four other men are said to have been arrested directly afterwards.

The explosive machine, filled with material enough to kill thirty persons in the crowd, was in the shape and form of a book, which could be carried by a student under the arm without attracting any particular attention; but it appears that a long and peculiar tape attached to it slipped down and drew the attention of the detectives. It was evidently intended that the bomb should be exploded by a tug at this tape after it had been thrown or laid down in the road. This Nihilist seems to have ingeniously provided for his own safety. At the corner of the Nevsky and Morskaia, where there is always a great press of traffic, the imperial carriage would have been obliged, like the rest, to slacken speed and turn the corner very slowly, which operation would, of course, have given the desired opportunity to the would-be assassin. All the district heads of police were immediately summoned before General Grösser, the prefect, and received orders to make immediate search throughout the city. Over one hundred suspected individuals were arrested before night.

In a despatch of Monday's date, the correspondent adds:—Many of those arrested last night have been released. A special council was held on the subject last night, under the presidency of the Czar's eldest brother, the Grand Duke Vladimir. The would-be assassin is described as of short stature, and he remains silent against all inquiries. It is stated by some that his lodging has been discovered on the north side of the Neva, that his fellow-lodger there has been arrested, and that other bombs and explosive materials have been seized. On the other hand, I am informed on good authority that the headquarters of this new band of conspirators have not yet been discovered. It is said that the Czar shed tears on being informed of the danger which not only himself but the Empress and her son had so narrowly escaped.

The account given by the *Standard*'s correspondent differs from the above in some details. The correspondent says:—

The plot had been kept absolutely secret; the police had no idea of its existence; the Emperor had congratulated General Grösser only that morning, saying, "I know my two months' stay in St. Petersburg has been a trying time for you; but it is now over, and everything has gone well." It appears, however, that on Friday the detectives noticed suspicious individuals loitering about the Nevsky Prospect, near the Anitschkoff Palace, and followed them into a tea-shop, where they took off their coats. Each had some apparently precious parcel which he laid down carefully on the table or the floor. Of these six men, one had a large book, another a bag, a third a parcel. They were reported to the authorities, and orders were given to keep an eye on them. Yesterday they were followed from their lodgings across the river to the places where they were arrested, just before the Emperor, who, with his eldest son, was seated in a sledge, was about to leave the palace. They had made every preparation to escape, and if they had not been arrested in the nick of time, the Czar and the Czarевич would in all probability have met a horrible death, for the objects which these miscreants were carrying so carefully were dynamite bombs, and the book proved to be a hollow case—containing a bottle of dynamite, surrounded by poisoned bullets. The Emperor's horses were stopped, and he was persuaded to take the other route to the station. The prisoners were all young men. Two of them were dressed in new university uniform, and one was a Cossack student from the Don district. The owner

of the deadly volume contrived to throw it down at the prefect's residence, but luckily it did not explode. A colonel of artillery, however, who was called in as an expert, incautiously tasted the sticky stuff adhering to the bullets, and fell down unconscious.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the *Daily News* says that up to last night more than two hundred persons had been arrested, and domiciliary visits were being made all over the city. The Berlin police, he adds, had informed the Russian authorities that an attempt would be made; but the latter did not succeed in obtaining any traces of the conspirators.

INDIA AND AFGHANISTAN.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

CALCUTTA, March 16.—Owing to the threatened complications in Afghanistan the Indian Government contemplates stationing a force of observation on the Pishcen frontier, but there is no intention of entering Afghan territory. The presence of the force is expected to give moral support to the Ameer.

EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

CAIRO, March 16.—The Caisse of the Public Debt, against the vote of M. le Chevalier, the French member, has declined to sanction the expenditure incurred by the Egyptian Government during 1886, on the basis of the proposed scheme which has since been abandoned for the abolition of the corvée.

THE GOVERNMENT AND IRELAND.

At a special meeting of the Grand Orange Lodge last night, on the motion of the Reverend Dr. Kane, Grand Master, it was decided to hold a demonstration during Easter holidays for the purpose of calling upon the Government to take prompt steps to restore law and order in Ireland. At the same meeting it was decided to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee by an imposing demonstration on the 12th of July, when a loyal address would be drawn up for presentation to her Majesty.

The *Dublin Express* urges the Government to take energetic measures for the repression of lawless marauders, foreseeing the danger that their organization and rudimentary discipline, with midnight assemblages and marchings and scout system, will develop into something worse, and that, emboldened by impunity, they will attempt movements on a larger scale and encounter forces openly, rendering it necessary to shoot them down in hundreds.

The *Freeman's Journal* again charges the Government with committing themselves by Captain Plunkett's telegram advocating the policy of bloodshed in Ireland. It asserts that they have ordered the police to slaughter defenceless crowds, and that the landlords are adopting the Prime Minister's alternative to pay or quit enforcing claims which the Cowper Commission declared inequitable.

HEAVY MERCANTILE FAILURE.

The failure was announced at the London Bankruptcy Court to-day of Messrs. R. A. and J. Stewart, of Fen-court, Fenchurch-street, and St. John's and Bathurst, New Brunswick, Canada, merchants, trading as R. A. and J. Stewart in Canada, and as Stewart Brothers in London. The debtors lately carried on the Leynoi Valley Colliery, Llangonoyd, Glamorgan, in partnership with Robert Thomas Gibbs. It was stated that the liabilities were over £100,000, that the assets being principally in Canada could not be estimated at present. The colliery is being managed by a receiver in Chancery. Messrs. Kearsey, Hawes, and Walsh are the solicitors to the proceedings.

THIS DAY'S PARLIAMENT.

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

THE DEBATE ON PROCEDURE.

The House at once resumed the debate on the cloture rule. Mr. Gedge moved an amendment requiring for the application of the cloture a majority which consisted of not less than one hundred members, and which bore to the minority the proportion of three or more to two. He contended that obstruction generally took place not in a large House but in a small House. Therefore the rule should be made strong for application in a small House. He asked why forty members should have so much power as they had under the existing rule, and he maintained that a three to two majority would make the operation of the rule much simpler. A small majority in Parliament was powerful enough to prevent a thing being done, but was never powerful enough to carry a thing its own way. He, therefore, was in favour of progress being made by means of a large majority supporting the cloture.

Mr. Heneage was opposed to a proportional majority, and did not believe the Government could sanction it. Mr. Clancy asked members on the Opposition side to vote against the amendment, which was proposed in the interest of the Tory party when in Opposition.

Mr. W. H. Smith admitted that Mr. Gedge had made a skilful and elaborate argument in support of his amendment, but he contended that any departure from the principle upon which the rule of the Government was based would not be an act of good faith with the House itself. He thought he had made it clear during the debate on the rule that it was not treated as a party question. Any member who was in favour of the amendment was at liberty to vote for it; but, as the member of the Government responsible for the conduct of this debate, he could be no party to a change of principle or of front. He trusted the House would be spared the necessity of a division on the amendment. Mr. Kenny moved, as an amendment to the amendment, that the majority should be three to one instead of three to two. Mr. Flynn supported Mr. Kenny's amendment. Mr. E. Harrington and Mr. Deasy followed. Mr. Conway and Mr. T. P. O'Connor continued the discussion.

Mr. Kenny's amendment and Mr. Gedge's amendment having been negatived without a division, Mr. T. P. O'Connor moved that when the minority was over forty the majority requisite for the application of the cloture should be over 300. He contended that it was not desirable that a transient or accidental majority should rule the House, and objected to sudden and unexpected applications of the cloture. Mr. Craig-Sellar contended that the quorum of 200 in the rule as it now stood was too large, and he would propose afterwards to reduce it. He did not understand that the Government would refuse to make any alteration in the figures though pledged to the principle of the rule. Mr. W. H. Smith said the figures in the rule as it stood bound him, and he would ask the House to adhere to the rule as proposed to the House. He could not bind the House, but he was bound by the figures in the rule. Mr. Craig-Sellar proceeded to argue against a quorum of 200.

THE KENTISH TOWN MURDER.

Up to the time of writing the murderers of Mrs. Samuel at Kentish Town had not been arrested. The authorities state that as a result of their inquiries during the past few days they are in possession of facts which they believe places them on the track of the assassins, and the early capture of the criminals is anticipated. No reward has yet been announced from head-quarters.

MYSTERIOUS AFFAIR IN CAMBERWELL.

A correspondent writes:—This morning Mr. Percival Wyatt issued a warrant for the holding of an inquest on the body of a young woman who died under very mysterious circumstances. It appears that on Sunday evening a young woman and a man entered the shop of a chemist in Church-street, Camberwell. The man informed the assistant that the woman had been taken suddenly ill. The assistant, judging from her appearance that she was in a serious condition, ushered her into the shop-parlour. He prepared a restorative, and handed it to her companion for administration. The assistant returned to the shop, and upon coming back to the parlour immediately afterwards, the young woman exclaimed, "Oh, I am dying!" and fell backwards. The assistant ran to the police station at the corner of the Camberwell New-road, a stone's-throw from the shop, and returned accompanied by a police-constable, who found the young woman lying upon the ground. The man, however, had disappeared. A doctor was summoned, who pronounced life to be extinct, and the body was removed to the mortuary to await identification and an inquest. All the efforts of the police to trace the missing man have failed, nor have their searches led to the identification of the deceased. She is described as a good looking woman of twenty-five or thereabouts, of pale complexion, light-brown hair, and hazel eyes. Her companion is described as dark, and about forty years old. He told the chemist that he was engaged to be married to the deceased.

FATAL RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

An accident occurred last night at Mohill, on the Cavan, Leitrim, and Roscommon Railway. Three persons are reported to have been killed and four severely injured. No details are yet to hand.

THE UNIVERSITY BOAT-RACE.

The Oxford crew reached Putney about midday, and will be afloat soon after four. They will use the new boat which Clasper has finished for them, the boats sent on from Bourne End not having arrived. Cambridge were out in the Swaddle this morning, going up to Chiswick in easy stages, and doing a sharp spin to Hammersmith, starting at 38. Below the bridge they started at 36 and rowed through to Putney at an average of 33, finishing up at 35. The time was 7 min. 28 sec. Their stroke was long and well pulled.

THIS DAY'S LONDON BETTING.

LINCOLNSHIRE HANDICAP.—11 to 2 agst Fulmen (t and off), 9 to 1 agst Fullerton (t and off), 100 to 8 agst King Monmouth (t and off), 100 to 6 agst St. George (t and off), 20 to 1 agst Stourhead (t and off), 22 to 1 agst Corunna (t), 25 to 1 agst Despair (t and w), 25 to 1 agst Cintra (t), 25 to 1 agst Tib (t), 33 to 1 agst Distinian (t), 33 to 1 agst Harpenden (off).
GRAND NATIONAL STEEPLECHASE.—9 to 2 agst Roquefort (t and off), 7 to 1 agst Spahi (off), 100 to 8 agst Frigate (t and off), 100 to 8 agst Bellona (t and off), 100 to 8 agst Maggie (t and off), 100 to 8 agst Old Joe (t and off).
TWO THOUSAND GUINEAS.—8 to 1 agst Eglamore (t), 25 to 1 agst Whistle Jacket (t).
DERBY.—33 to 1 agst Lourdes (t), 40 to 1 agst Whistle Jacket (t).

THIS DAY'S RACING.

DERBY.

SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE RACE. (About two miles.)—Jane (Mr. Moore), 1. Trumpeter (Smith), 2. Two started. Betting: 9 to 4 on Jane. Trumpeter led till fifty yards from home, when Jane joined issue and won by a neck.
SHIPLEY HALL HANDICAP STEEPLECHASE. (About two miles.)—Redpath (W. Nightingall), 1. Lord Lumley (Captain Owen), 2. Rosebud (Mr. Moore), 3. The following also started:—Sachem (A. Jones), Bay Comus (Mr. C. W. Waller), Damascus (Smith), Trumpeter (W. E. Stephens), Westgate (Behan), and Broadside (Captain Lee-Barber). Betting: 4 to 1 agst Redpath, 4 to 1 agst Sachem, 5 to 1 agst Bay Comus, 7 to 1 each agst Rosebud and Lord Lumley, 8 to 1 agst Damascus. Bay Comus made the running till half a mile from home, when he gave way to Redpath, who went on and won by a length and a half: four lengths divided second and third.
GRAND NATIONAL OPEN HUNTERS' STEEPLECHASE. (About three miles.)—Delandre (Mr. C. J. Cunningham), 1. Tom Jones (Mr. W. Beasley), 2. Punjaub (Captain Middleton), 3. The following also started:—Stellaland (Mr. Eyre), Castaway (Captain Owen), Matilda (W. E. Stephens), Brockmanton (Mr. Whitton), Cork (H. Peirce), and Bombay (T. Smith). Betting: 15 to 8 agst Delandre, 9 to 4 agst Punjaub, 8 to 1 agst Bombay, 100 to 8 each agst Tom Jones and Stellaland, 100 to 7 agst any other.
DEVONSHIRE HANDICAP HURDLE RACE. (About two miles.)—Ivanhoe (Captain Lee-Barber), 1. Catalina (Mr. Moore), 2. Malvern (Skelton), 3. The following also started:—Bolero (Mr. D. Thirlwell), Theophrastus (H. Barker), Kinfauns (Page), Sophist (Thornton), Silver Sea (Hall), Sulphur (W. Nightingall), and Chibby (Beaumont). Betting: 11 to 10 agst Malvern, 6 to 1 agst Kinfauns, 100 to 8 agst Ivanhoe, 100 to 8 each agst Bolero, Silver Sea, Sulphur, and Chibby.
HARRINGTON STEEPLECHASE CUP. (About three miles.)—Wicket (Mr. Court), 1. The Count (Mr. Holden), Hazleford (Mr. C. W. Waller), and Lordie (Captain Gwynne) also started.

BETTING BEFORE THE RACING.

LINCOLNSHIRE HANDICAP.—11 to 2 agst Fulmen (t), 10 to 1 agst Fullerton (off), 1000 to 75 agst King Monmouth (off), 20 to 1 agst Stourhead (t and off), 100 to 4 agst Despair (t and off), 500 to 15 agst Distinian (off).

THIS DAY'S MONEY MARKET.

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

The inquiry for money to-day in the open market is active in connection with the Settlement on the Stock Exchange, and the rate for short loans is 2½ to 3 per cent. The rate of discount is unaltered, at 2½ per cent.

Quarter to Four.

The dealers in the Stock Exchange are busy with the conclusion of the Settlement; but the tone is firm, although prices are not in all cases at their best points. Consols are steady at yesterday's prices, and several of the Home Railways show an advance, but others are not so firm as they were this morning. The stocks of the southern lines have given way on sales to realie, and North-Eastern is dull on the weakness of pig iron in Glasgow. Foreign Securities are steady on the firmness quoted from the Continent; but Russian of 1873 is an exception, and the price

shows a reduction, on the unsettled state of internal affairs in St. Petersburg. American Securities are firm, and there is a moderate improvement in Grand Trunk of Canada and Mexican Railway stocks.

The following are the changes as compared with yesterday's closing prices:—In the English Funds, Consols for money and the account (April) are unchanged at 101½ to 101½ and 101½ to 101½. Reduced and New Three per Cents. are quoted 100½ to 100½, and New Two-and-a-Half per Cents. 88½ to 89.

In Home Railways, Great Eastern has risen ¼, Great Northern Ordinary ¼, Great Western ¼, Brighton Ordinary 2, Chatham Preference ¼, Metropolitan ¼, Midland ¼, and North British ¼; but South-Eastern Deferred has fallen ½, North-Eastern ½, Chatham Ordinary ¼, Brighton A ¼, and Caledonian ¼. In Canadian and Foreign Railways, Grand Trunk Ordinary has risen ¼, Canadian Pacific ¼, Mexican Ordinary ¼, and the Second Preference ½; but Grand Trunk Third Preference has fallen ¼.

In Foreign Government Bonds, Argentine Six per Cents. of 1871 have risen 1, Costa Rica Bonds A and B ¼, Egyptian Preference ¼, the Daira ¼, Italian Five per Cents. of 1861 ¾, Mexican Old Three per Cents. ¾, Peruvian Six per Cents. of 1870 ¼, the 1872 ¼, Spanish Four per Cents. 1-16, Turkish Group II. ¼, and Groups III. and IV. ¼; but Egyptian Unified has fallen ½, French Four-and-a-Half per Cent. Rentes ¼, Russian of 1873 ¾, Turkish Tribute ¼, and the Defence ¼.

In American Securities, New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio First Mortgage Bonds have risen ¼, Central Pacific ¼, Denver 1, Lake Shore 1, Louisville 1½, Erie ½, the Second Mortgage ½, Ontario ¾, Ohio ¼, Pennsylvania ¼, Reading ¼, Union Pacific ¼, and Wabash Preference ¾.

The Eastern rates of exchange are:—Bombay, 1s. 5 15-32d.; Calcutta, 1s. 5 7-16d.; Hong Kong, 3s. 2 ¼d., and Shanghai, 4s. 5 ¾d.

The report and accounts of the North British Railway Company show that the total traffic receipts for the half-year ended 31st of January amounted to £1,312,378, against £1,269,026 for the corresponding period ending January, 1885. The expenditure was £634,702, against £626,643 in the previous year, showing a balance carried to net revenue account of £699,365, against £668,542. The amount available for dividend is £517,579, against £487,961 a year ago, and the balance carried forward is £1,616, against £1,239 last year.

The Hotchkiss allotment is out this morning, and, as was expected, the proportions are small. The premium on the Ordinary shares is 3¼.

Letters of allotment in the London Improved Cab Company were posted yesterday.

ENGLISH GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.		
Consols	101½	101½
Ditto Account (April) ..	100½	100½
Reduced Three per Cents. ..	100½	100½
New Three per Cents. ..	100½	100½
New Two-and-a-Half per Cents. ..	88½	89
India Stock Four per Cent. ..	100½	101½
Ditto Three per Cent. ..	85½	86½
Ditto Four per Cent. Rupee Paper ..	69½	69½
Ditto 4½ per Cent. Rupee Paper ..	7½	7½
Bank of England Stock ..	98	98
Metropolitan 3½ per Cent. ..	105½	107

COLONIAL GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.		
Canada 4 per Cent. of 1910-35 ..	104½	105½
N.S. Wales 4 p. C. of 1903-58-9-10 ..	102	103
N. Zealand 4 per Cent. Cons. Ins ..	95	96
Queensland 6 per Cent. 1891-96 ..	106	118
S. Australian 4 p. C. of 1894-19 ..	98	99
Tasmanian 6 per Cent. of 1893-1901 ..	120	120
Victoria 4½ per Cent. of 1904 ..	105	107

AMERICAN SECURITIES.		
United States 4½ per Cent. Bonds ..	111½	111½
Ditto Four per Cent. ..	131½	131½
Virginia Funded Bonds ..	56½	56½
New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio First Mortgage Bonds ..	49½	49½
Central Pacific Shares ..	39	39½
Chicago Milwaukee, and St. Paul ..	9½	9½
Denver and Rio Grande Shares ..	27½	27½
Illinois Shares ..	133	134
Lake Shore and Michigan Southern 100-dol. Shares ..	58	58½
Louisville and Nashville 100-dol. Shares ..	65½	65½
New York Central Shares ..	115½	116
New York, Lake Erie, & Western 100-dol. Shares ..	35	35½
Ditto Preference Six per Cent ..	73½	74½
Ditto Second Mortgage Bonds ..	102	102½
New York, Ontario, and Western Shares ..	18½	18½
Ohio and Mississippi Shares ..	29	29½
Oregon and California Seven per Cent. Preference Shares ..	18½	19½
Pennsylvania Shares ..	59½	59½
Philadelphia and Reading Share ..	19½	2½
Ditto General Mortgage Bonds ..	105	105
Union Pacific Shares ..	52½	53½
Wabash, St. Louis, and Pacific Ordinary Shares ..	19½	20½
Ditto 100-dol. Preference ..	31½	31½

BRITISH AND FOREIGN RAILWAY STOCKS.		
Caledonian	9½	9½
Great Eastern	18½	18½
Great Northern Ordinary ..	11½	11½
Ditto A	12½	13
Great Western	13½	13
Lancashire and Yorkshire ..	117½	118½
London and Brighton Ordinary ..	132	134
Ditto A	119½	120½
London, Chatham, & Dover Ord ..	24	24½
Ditto 4½ per Cent. Preference ..	10½	10½
London and North-Western ..	16½	16½
London and South-Western ..	12½	127½
Manchester, Sheffield, & Lincoln ..	69	70
Ditto A	39½	39½
Metropolitan	111½	111½
Metropolitan District ..	40½	40½
Midland	124½	125½
North British	101½	101½
North-Eastern	15½	15½
North Staffordshire	92½	94½
South-Eastern Ordinary ..	128	130
Ditto Deferred	109½	110½
Grand Trunk of Canada Ordinary ..	13½	14½
Ditto First Preference Stock ..	77½	7½
Ditto Second Preference Stock ..	6½	6½
Ditto Third Preference Stock ..	33½	33½
Ditto Guaranteed	7½	7½
Canadian Pacific Shares ..	62½	62½
Buenos Ayres & Pac. 7 p.c. Shares ..	23½	24½
Ditto 7 p.c. Debentures ..	126	128
Lombardo-Venetian	8	8½
Mexican Ordinary	61½	61½
Ditto Eight per Cent. First Pref ..	121½	121½
Ditto Six per Cent. Second Pref ..	84½	84½
Ditto Six per Cent. Perpetual ..	121	123
Debtenture Stock	121	123

MISCELLANEOUS SHARES.		
Australian Agricultural ..	118	123
Anglo-Am. Brush Light (43 paid) ..	2½	3
Hudson's Bay	2½	2½
National Discount	10½	11
Peninsular and Oriental Steam ..	59	61
Royal Mail Steam	33	40
Suez Canal	80½	80½

FOREIGN STOCK MARKETS.		
Argentine Six per Cent. of 1868 ..	101	103
Ditto Six per Cent. of 1871 ..	101	103
Ditto 6 p. Cent. Hard Dol. Bonds ..	71	73
Austrian Four p. Ct. Gold Rentes ..	87	89
Ditto Five per Cent. Silver ..	63	65
Brazilian Five per Cent. of 185 ..	10	101
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1872 ..	98	99
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1875 ..	92½	92½
Ditto 4½ per Cent. of 1883 ..	92½	92½
Buenos Ayres Six per Cent. of 1870 ..	100	102
Ditto Six per Cents. of 1873 ..	99	100
Chilian 4½ per Cent. Converter ..	99	100
Chinese Six p. Ct. of 1895, March ..	110	112
Ditto Six p. Ct. of 1895, June ..	108	110
Costa Rica 5 per Cent. Bonds A ..	61	68
Ditto B p. Ct. now 5 p. Ct. 1888 ..	61	62
Egyptian Three p. Ct. Guarantee ..	98	98½
Ditto Five p. Ct. State Domain ..	93½	93½
Ditto Four per Cent. Unified ..	73½	74½
Ditto Five per Cent. Preference ..	95½	9½
Ditto Four p. Ct. Daira Sanieh ..	71½	72
Entre Rios 6 p. Ct. 1886 ..	92	91
Ditto 6 p. Ct. Ry. Mortgage ..	93	94
French Three per Cent. Rentes ..	80½	80½
Ditto 4½ per Cent. of 1872 ..	107½	103½
Greek Five per Cent. of 1879 ..	71	85
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1881 ..	61	62
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1884 ..	60½	61½
Hungarian Gold Rentes of 1882 ..	7½	79½
Italian Five per Cent. of 1892 ..	95½	95
Mexican Old Three per Cent. ..	23½	2½
Ditto of 1864	1½	1½
Norwegian Four per Cent. of 1882 ..	103	103
Peruvian Six per Cent. of 1870 ..	15½	15½
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1872 ..	12½	12½
Portuguese Three per Cent. ..	51½	54½
Russian Five per Cent. of 1871 ..	53	54
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1872 ..	91½	91½
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1873 ..	9½	91½
Ditto 4½ per Cent. of 1875 ..	85	85
Santa Fe 5 p. Ct. N. C. Ry. Mort ..	93	100
Ditto 5 p. Ct. Extensions Mort ..	89	91
Spanish Four per Cent. ..	64½	64½
Ditto Two per Cent. ..	46½	46½
Swedish Four per Cent. of 1880 ..	102	104
Turkish Five per Cent. Group 1 ..	22½	24½
Ditto Nine per Cent. ..	13½	13½
Ditto Six & Five per Cent. ..	11½	11½
Ditto 4½ p. Ct. Tribute Loan of 1871 ..	71½	71½
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1854 ..	93	95
Ditto Five per Cent. Defence ..	83½	84
Uruguay Unified Five p. Ct. of 1883 ..	49½	49½

BANKS.		
Anglo-Egyptian	16	17
City	18½	19½
Colonial	34	34
Consolidated	64	74
Imperial Ottoman	105-16	107-16
London and County	81½	82½
London and Westminster ..	63	64
London Joint Stock	31	33
National Provincial (42 paid) ..	40½	50½
Union of London	36½	37½

MINING SHARES.		
Cape Copper	22	23
Indian Consolidated	7½	8
Mason and Barry	8½	8½
Montana	8½	9
Mysore Gold	6½	6½
Oreogum Gold	13-16	15-16
Richmond Consolidated ..	4½	4½
Rio Tinto	10½	11
St. John del Rey	31	35
Tharsis Sulphur	3	3½
United Mexican	2½	3½

TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE SECURITIES.		
Anglo-American	32½	33½
Brazilian Submarine	10½	10½
Consolidated Telephone ..	34	34
Direct United States	8½	8½
Eastern	10½	10½
Eastern Extension	12½	11½
Globe Ordinary	4½	5½
Ditto Preference	12	12½
India-rubber, Gutta-percha, and Telegraph Works	22	23
Oriental Telephone	3-16	5-16
Telegraph Construction ..	7½	7½
United Telephone	12½	12½
Western and Brazilian	7½	7½

TRAMWAY SHARES.		
Dublin	10½	10½
Glasgow	12½	13
Liverpool Un. Tram. and Omnibus ..	10½	11½
London	19½	19½
London Street	19½	20½
North Metropolitan	21	21½

A POLICE SCANDAL.

A scandal has just come to light in the Metropolitan Police force, and the offenders have received exemplary punishment. It seems that recently a seafaring man, while in the vicinity of Limehouse, lost a gold watch and chain. He communicated his loss to the police at Limehouse, and the information came to the knowledge of two inspectors alternately in charge, who had been in the force one for eighteen and the other for seventeen years. The owner of the watch stated to these officers that he was willing to pay a handsome reward for its restoration. They then made inquiries, and some time after the watch and chain were handed to them by another person. The stolen articles were then returned to the owner, and he paid the amount which he had promised on their restitution. No record of this matter seems to have been made in the police books, but it is known that the person who had been the means of handing over the watch and chain received from one of the inspectors a small proportion of the award. He was dissatisfied with his share of the spoil, and made unsuccessful efforts to induce the inspectors to hand over more of the money they had received. The result was that Superintendent Turner was made acquainted with what had been going on, and the circumstances were next brought before Sir Charles Warren, with the result that he summarily dismissed both officers from the police force. The dismissal has been announced in police orders throughout the metropolitan stations.

THE NAVY ESTIMATES.

Under the title, "Appendices and Index," there was circulated to-day, as a parliamentary paper, a voluminous addition to the Navy Estimates for the year, explaining in detail the several votes, and showing the aggregate cost of construction of effective and non-effective ships at present on the strength of the navy, the first cost of each effective ship, the approximate value of lands and buildings in her Majesty's dockyards and naval yards at home and abroad, and the value of naval stores and coals in stock. For dockyard work at home and abroad it is proposed to expend during the coming year on total new construction £712,131 in labour and £761,421 on materials; and for refitting, repairs, and miscellaneous services an additional £730,462 on labour and £913,406 on materials. The contract work under Vote 10, section 2, is represented by the following totals:—Propelling machinery, £586,800; hulls, etc., £590,600; steam-launches, etc., £10,000; auxiliary machinery, £25,400; repairs, etc., £30,000; superintendence of contract work, £14,000; gun-mountings and torpedo-gear, £513,000; total of Vote 10, sections 1 and 2, £1,769,800; grand total, £4,887,220. This expenditure involves an estimated liability for future years of £1,576,470, chargeable to the naval votes, as well as £1,062,200, for guns, etc., chargeable to army votes.

THE LONDON AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

A special general meeting of the proprietors of the London and North-Western Railway was held to-day at Euston to consider several Parliamentary Bills promoted by this and other companies. Mr. Mason (the solicitor) explained that the Bill promoted by the London and North-Western Railway Company was to obtain further powers in relation to their own and other undertakings, and it was proposed to insert in the Bill provisions to authorize the grant by the company to the Corporation of Crewe of about thirty acres of land for the purposes of a public park and recreation-ground, and the expenditure of a sum not exceeding £10,000 in laying out park, forming roads, and other necessary works. Mr. Paine took exception to the proposed grant and expenditure, and contended that enough had already been done by the company for Crewe, and that as the landowners had reaped the benefit of the establishment of a station there by the company they should contribute the necessary funds. The chairman stated that the park and ground would be chiefly for the benefit of the company's employes, and he moved the approval of the Bill and its additional clauses. Mr. Bickersteth seconded the motion. Mr. Paine moved an amendment to the effect that the grant be not approved. Replying to some remarks by Mr. Paine, whose amendment found no seconder, the chairman stated that the land for the park was purchased a few years ago, and cost about £200 per acre. The board thought that as this was the jubilee year of the Queen, and the year in which the company completed their 3,000th engine, they ought to do something for those connected with the company. The resolution was carried with acclamation. The meeting then approved resolutions authorizing the Mersey Railway Company to extend their railway in Liverpool and Birkenhead, and conferring further powers on the Furness Railway Company.

ARMY RECRUITING.

Major-General Biddulph, Inspector-General of Recruiting, has issued his annual report. The total number of men passed into the regular army in 1886 was 39,409, being 562 less than in 1885, but more than in any other year since 1870, when short service was adopted. Of this number, 1,688 enlisted for long service. The falling-off in numbers is due, General Biddulph considers, to the fact that medical officers were not permitted, after the 1st of January, 1886, to pass men with only 32 in. chest measurement even when likely to develop. The number of men who extended their service at home during 1886 was 2,433. The territorial system seems to be taking strong root, the number of men in infantry regiments born in the respective districts having increased from 24,247 in January, 1883, to 45,979 in 1887. At the beginning of this year 41 regiments were supplying themselves entirely from their own districts, as against 27 a year ago. Out of 13,426 recruits joining from the infantry militia 6,816 volunteered for the line battalions of their own regiments. The general officer commanding at Aldershot remarks that in many regiments which have come under his notice "it is easy to tell from what part of the country the men come, as the physical types of the different districts are so very clearly discernible." From the engineer, artillery, and infantry militia 14,531 men enlisted, and the yeomanry and volunteers sent 2,050, as against 680 in 1882 and 1,392 in 1883. With reference to the position of army reserve men, General Biddulph says:—

There are apparently some employers of labour who, having in view the possibility of Great Britain being some day involved in a great war which will necessitate the calling out of the army reserve, will not subject themselves to the loss and inconvenience which might then be entailed on them by such men being withdrawn from their employment, even with due notice; and it is to be regretted that any persons should be found who are unwilling to contribute even this small risk towards the national welfare. The question whether army reserve men should be allowed to re-enlist is worthy of consideration. There are men who, having entered the army young, find other pursuits uncongenial, or that their attempts to get employment are unsuccessful. As these men received deferred pay on leaving the colours, they cannot be permitted to re-enter on army service to complete their current engagement without first refunding the deferred pay which they have received; but it is worthy of consideration whether such men might not be allowed to be discharged from the reserve on their re-enlisting for a fixed period of colour-service. In this case the deferred pay need not be refunded.

THE ROYAL VISIT TO MANCHESTER.

At a meeting of the Manchester City Council to-day, arrangements were discussed for the visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales to open the Jubilee Exhibition. It was stated that their Royal Highnesses would be the guests of Lord Egerton of Tatton, at Knutsford.

THE LIBERAL CONFERENCE.

In reply to a letter containing a copy of a resolution of the Liberal Council of Nelson, near Burnley, Sir George Trevelyan writes:—

8, Grosvenor-crescent, S.W., 12th March, 1887.

Dear Sir,—I am much obliged for your letter enclosing the resolution, which is so drawn as to give me great satisfaction. Pray express my feeling to the members of the Nelson Liberal Council. I joined the conference on the understanding that it was called for two purposes—first, to ascertain whether objections which I and others had to the Irish policy brought forward by the late Government could be adequately met, and next in order to renew friendly and courteous personal relations between the two sections of the Liberal party. Everything that I have said and written has been consistent with these two objects, and every fair man and every party and section of a party must admit it.—I am, yours truly,

G. O. TREVELYAN.

MR. KNIPE'S REPORT.

The following letter has been written by the secretary of Lord Cowper's Commission in reply to a statement that the Government are delaying the publication of Mr. Knipe's report:—"Royal Commission on the Land Acts, 36, Merrion-square, March 15, 1887. Sir,—In reference to the statement contained in this day's *Freeman*, that the Government are still deliberately keeping back from the public Mr. Knipe's report, I beg to state that the sole cause of the delay in publication arises from the fact that Mr. Knipe has not yet returned to me the proofs for the printers of his report.—I am, sir, your obedient servant, F. G. HODDER, secretary."

THE FILIBUSTERING CASE.

The Solicitor-General applied to Mr. Justice A. L. Smith to-day to postpone passing sentence on Colonel Sandoval, who was recently found guilty of a breach of the Foreign Enlistment Act. The case was fixed for Thursday, but it was desired not to have sentence delivered on that day. Ultimately, with the assent of Mr. Grain, who appeared for Colonel Sandoval, it was arranged that sentence should be delivered on Monday next.

ALLEGED INHUMAN CONDUCT AT GUYS HOSPITAL.

At the meeting of the Strand Board of Guardians last night, a man named Stack applied for relief. He said that on Monday he met with an accident. Whilst carrying a box of oranges ashore into King's Head-yard, he slipped and fell, breaking his leg. He was taken on a barrow to Guy's Hospital where they took him in, and allowed him to remain in agony till one o'clock on Tuesday morning before they set his leg. They gave him a pair of crutches in the morning, and told him he must go out, as there was no bed to put him into. He was also told that he must pay 2s. for the crutches; but he had not a single farthing in his pocket, and he told them he could not pay. They then said that if he did not pay for the crutches he must go out without them. It happened that his wife and her aunt came to the hospital to see him, but they had no money. His wife's aunt pawned her wedding-ring, and out of the proceeds she paid for the crutches. He asked what he was to do, and they told him he must go out, and if he wanted any assistance he must apply to the guardians. His wife's aunt then gave him three pence, and with this he paid his omnibus fare to the bottom of Wellington-street, and arrived at the offices of the Strand Union at 5 P.M. The chairman said they would take him into the infirmary next day, and supply outdoor relief to his wife and children. The guardians made a collection between them for the man, who then left with his wife. The clerk was instructed to write to the hospital authorities for an explanation.

MIXING PARAFFIN WITH BEER.

At the Clerkenwell Police Court to-day, William Johnson, thirty-two, a book-binder, of 8, Jerusalem-buildings, Clerkenwell, was charged with maliciously endangering the life of his wife by administering to her paraffin mixed with beer. The complainant said she and her husband were in bed early that morning, and she asked him to get out and give her some beer, which was in the room. He did so, and when she had drunk a glassful of the beer she found there was paraffin-oil in it. She felt exceedingly bad and was sick. On her telling a policeman, he took her to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, where she was attended to by a doctor. Dr. Morris said that paraffin was a noxious irritant, and it might have killed her. The prisoner denied having put any paraffin in the beer. He added that he was constantly getting out of bed, almost every night, to get his wife something to drink. The complainant said that she and her husband often quarrelled. Mr. Sheil committed the prisoner for trial.

A "BEST ON RECORD."

A "best on record" of an unusual kind (*Truth* says) was done last month at Baberton, Cape Colony. An artist named Woodcock played the piano for twenty-four consecutive hours "without breaking harmony," which I take to mean that he had at least two fingers on the keyboard throughout the time, unless the conditions of the exhibition permitted the employment of his nose. During the twenty-four hours Mr. Woodcock took no other refreshment than some beef-tea and an occasional cigar. He, however, finished in capital condition, and subsequently performed at two music-halls, at one of which he was presented with a gold watch and chain and the evening's takings. It is gratifying to see such enthusiasm for art on the very outskirts of civilization.

ALARMING ACCIDENT.

An alarming explosion occurred this morning in the pottery works of Cochrane and Co., Gleebe-street, Glasgow. John Nicol, kiln-man, opened a furnace-door too wide, and the molten material rushed out into a tank of water, causing an explosion which was heard half a mile away. Nicol was seriously injured, while James Campbell and another man were terribly burnt about the head, face, and neck. The injured men were conveyed to the infirmary.

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

THE PLOT TO MURDER THE CZAR.

The discovery of the plot to murder the Czar has produced a profound impression in Berlin and Vienna. The *Times'* correspondent in the latter capital says:—

It seems to be thought in some quarters that the attempt on the Czar's life has a connection with the Constitutionalist plot reported yesterday. This, however, is indignantly denied by the Constitutionalist who have been arrested, and they also repudiate the accusation of being conspirators, although it is clear that in a country where private political meetings are not allowed all holders of unauthorized and consequently unlawful assemblies must be regarded as conspirators. Touching the Constitutionalist conspiracy I have been able to obtain the following details from two sources, one of which is a private letter from St. Petersburg, written on the 11th of March—that is, two days before the attempt on the Czar's life:—The conspirators who had been apprehended up to that date were, with two exceptions, men of the *bourgeois* class; but one general and one count were also in custody, and three officers of the Guards had been suspended from duty and placed under surveillance for suspected complicity. Among the other suspects were several great landowners, who fled from the country when the conspiracy was discovered, about ten days ago. The total number of persons arrested on the 10th exceeds seventy. The conspiracy is stated to have wide ramifications among the provincial nobility and among the officers in the army. The parties to it subscribed to a lithographed periodical entitled the *Constitutional*, which periodical was composed principally of extracts from the works of well-known writers on constitutional law and political economy. The statutes of the organization obliged all parties to join at the signal of a chief in doing their utmost to subvert the existing form of government, and to establish a constitution. The motto of the society was "The people, with the Czar or against the Czar." It is stated that the Czar was much incensed at the discovery of this plot, and particularly at the alleged participation of so many officers in it. The effect of the discovery, however, is said to have been to strengthen the position of the Pan Slavists, who, while pushing the Czar to an aggressive foreign policy, have always advocated his absolute supremacy in matters temporal as well as spiritual. If this be really the effect which the plots have had, the consequences to Europe will be serious. They will bring on war very speedily.

The Berlin papers are filled with speculations on the plot and its results. The semi-official *Post* traces the plot to the union of two parties which have hitherto always been bitter enemies, the Decabrists and the Pan Slavists, and says:—

Alexander III. has so far resisted the pressure put upon him by the war party, because, with the instinct of a true Sovereign, he has understood that a monarch cannot act like a gambler who is resolved either to burst the bank or to put a bullet through his own head. But what path will he choose now that he can no longer conceal from himself the fearful fact that these attempts on his life are not to be stamped out? If with fatal imperturbability he continues the system of repression, he must be prepared, sooner or later to become the victim of an assassin. He could make domestic reforms; but then the Pan Slavists and the December men would simply change places; for any effective reform would have to proceed remorselessly against the real exploiters of the present system, who are the Pan Slavists, and with them the greater part of the ruling classes, of the nobility, army, and the civil administration. So that one cannot conceal the serious fact that an almost superhuman power would be necessary to ward off the means which are more and more stormily demanded—namely, war. In whichever direction Russia might declare war Europe would be drawn into it. We do not want to proclaim that the enemy is already before our doors. But with alarm and regret we must say that Europe must be prepared for a policy of desperation, which may show itself by fatal resignation or convulsive risks. The latter path is the more probable.

In the official world of Berlin a certain amount of apprehension has long existed, because, though the Czar is credited with good intentions, everything depends on the will of a single autocratic Sovereign. In financial circles there is the same fear of an ultimate crash.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S VISIT TO SKYE.

In reference to Mr. Chamberlain's proposed visit to Skye to inquire into the grievances of the crofters, Mr. J. J. Mackay, secretary of the Land League of Skye, has received the following communication from that gentleman in reply to a letter addressed to him as to his visit. Mr. Chamberlain's letter is dated the 14th of March, and is as follows:—

Dear Sir,—I cannot fix the exact date of my arrival at Skye, as I have placed myself entirely in the hands of Mr. Macpherson on the understanding that he will arrange for me to make the best use of the short time at my disposal. I have no doubt that I shall be able to give you the three days that you mentioned; but as regards a public meeting I cannot promise to deliver any address on the occasion. I am going solely to get information; and, although I shall be very glad to meet delegates of the crofters at any place that would be most convenient in order to hear them state their own case, I do not propose to speak on the subject until I have finished my tour and have had time to consider the information put before me.—Yours truly,

JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN.

COMPULSORY RETIREMENT.

Mr. Stanhope, Secretary of State for War, yesterday received a deputation representing the colonels who were compulsorily retired by warrant in 1882. Colonel Hughes-Hallett, M.P., introduced the deputation, which consisted of Generals Stewart, Braye, McKay, and Hackett. These officers stated the case of their brother officers, all of whom, they said, had joined the army under the purchase system, and would, under the old régime, have been entitled to hold their commissions until the age of sixty-three. They were, however, in 1882 retired, without any notice, at the age of fifty-eight. They had suffered great loss; and although they made no claim, they trusted Mr. Stanhope would consider their position. This Mr. Stanhope promised to do.

THE REVENUE.

The receipts on account of revenue from the 1st of April, 1886, when there was a balance of £5,625,944, to March 12, 1887, were £85,103,385, against £83,652,156 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £4,993,207. The net expenditure was £82,053,288, against £83,780,383 to the same date in the previous year. The Treasury balances on March 12, 1887, amounted to £7,923,129, and at the same date in 1886 to £8,212,427.

THE PARIS EXHIBITION.

M. Flourens has just addressed a letter to the representatives of France abroad concerning the Exhibition of 1889. In it the Minister for Foreign Affairs instructs them to inform the Governments to which they are accredited that a universal exhibition will open in Paris in 1889, and to communicate to them all the documents relative to the organization of that exhibition. The French representatives are also to invite the various foreign Governments to take part in it officially. If that invitation is declined, the foreign Governments are to be requested to permit their subjects to take part in it.

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

THE STATE OF IRELAND.

A special meeting of the Cork Corporation was held yesterday for the purpose of dealing with the following resolution, of which notice was given at the last meeting:—

That, in view of the speech on Irish affairs recently delivered in London by the Prime Minister of England, we, the Corporation of Cork, feel bound to make a solemn and most emphatic protest against the threatened withdrawal of the right of trial by jury from the people of Ireland. That we believe the effect of this and other measures of coercion indicated in recent speeches of members of the present Government will be to produce in this country great injustice, much suffering, and grave danger to the public peace. That we condemn in the strongest manner the attempt of the Government to insult and outrage the feelings of all Irishmen by the contemplated arrest of the Reverend Father Keller, parish priest of Youghal; and express our condemnation of the recent murderous outrage by the police on the people of Youghal, which is the result, in our opinion, of the threat of Sir M. Hicks-Beach, late Chief Secretary for Ireland. That we instruct our town clerk to have copies of this resolution sealed with the city seal and transmitted to the Prime Minister, the Chief Secretary for Ireland, Mr. Parnell, Mr. Gladstone, Mr. J. Morley, Mr. M. Healy, and Mr. Dillon.

Alderman Scott proposed an amendment:—

That we think it more desirable to record our condemnation of the increase of outrages and the repeated attempts to defy the laws of the realm which are so much encouraged, as we consider that they are bringing this country into a state of social and commercial ruin.

In the course of the discussion which followed the mayor warned the Government that if they introduced another Coercion Act into Ireland it would have the effect of making many now loyal disloyal. The amendment was lost by a majority of 20 to 6, and the resolution was declared carried.

The fortnightly meeting of the National League was held yesterday at Dublin, the Lord Mayor (Mr. T. D. Sullivan, M.P.) presiding. It was announced that the subscriptions since the last meeting amounted to £460 for the League funds, and for the Parliamentary fund £111. The Lord Mayor said they had heard some alarming and highly coloured accounts of the condition of the country, and they had been told that Ireland was in a state of anarchy. This was a gross exaggeration. Some portions of the country were in an unsettled state, it was true; but these were parts where the curse of landlordism had been most keenly felt.

Ten families on the estate of Mr. Daly, of Ballinrobe, situated about six miles from Claremorris, were evicted yesterday by the Sheriff of Mayo, who was accompanied by several bailiffs, a body of 218 constables, commanded by County Inspector Dobbyn, and two resident magistrates. Snow was falling heavily at the time. A crowd of people assembled, but no resistance was offered.

Seven men were tried at the Cork Assizes for an armed attack on a boy-cotted bog-ranger named Walsh. The prosecutor identified five, and his wife two of the prisoners, as having fired several shots into their house, killed their dog, and knocked Walsh's teeth out. The prisoners were tried at the Winter Assizes, when the jury disagreed. Five of the number were now acquitted, but the jury disagreed with regard to two, although they were locked up until a late hour.

THE FOREIGN AND COLONIAL OFFICE LISTS.

Messrs. Harrison and Sons have sent us the "Foreign Office List" for 1887 (edited by Sir Edward Hertslet) and the "Colonial Office List" for 1887, compiled by Messrs. John Anderson and Sidney Webb, of the Colonial Office. Both these handbooks are well known, and give trustworthy information regarding the personnel of her Majesty's Diplomatic and Consular Services. Very full details relating to each colony are supplied, and both lists contain useful maps. This is the sixtieth publication of the "Foreign List" and the twenty-sixth of the "Colonial List." The former costs 6s. and the latter 7s. 6d.

THE FISHERMEN'S STRIKE.

The fishermen's strike which has been pending at Great Yarmouth for the past fortnight was yesterday brought to a conclusion. A conference of smack-owners, masters, and men was held yesterday morning at the Drill Hall, York-street, the result of which was that it was arranged that the men should resume work on the old terms—namely, that they should receive payment partly in wages and partly by a participation in the profits realized. On alteration of some importance was, however, made, by which the men will be held partially responsible for the nets used—that is, that they will bear a portion of the cost of making good the damages to nets. As a consequence of the settlement of the dispute, several Great Yarmouth smacks put to sea yesterday.

DEATH OF LORD GERARD.

Lord Gerard died suddenly yesterday morning at 16, South-street, Park-lane. A fortnight ago he removed from Garswood, his Lancashire residence, to London, and on Monday took a drive; but a chill which he caught a few days previously seemed not to have been quite overcome, for his lordship was found dead in bed early yesterday morning. The deceased nobleman was born in 1808, and succeeded in the baronetcy his brother, Sir John Gerard, in 1854, and was elevated to the peerage, as Baron Gerard, of Bryn, in 1876. He was a Conservative and a Roman Catholic, but was not an active partisan. He was a generous supporter of many charitable movements, and his death will be much regretted in Wigan and the neighbourhood. He is succeeded by his eldest son, William Cansfield Gerard, who was born in 1851, and who married Miss Milner, of West Retford House, Notts.

SUICIDE OF A DUCHESS.

There have been several cases of suicide in the higher classes of society in Paris of late, and the sensation produced by them has been increased by the news that the Duchess of Otranto has just died by her own hand. The Duchess was only forty years of age. Her husband, who was the son of the famous Fouché, Duke of Otranto, and Minister of Police under the First Napoleon, died last year at the age of eighty-four, leaving a considerable fortune to his widow and his son, a boy of twelve who is at present studying in the Ecole Monge. The deceased lady had for some time evinced signs of mental derangement. Only three months ago she ran away from home and was found at Lagny, where she had tried to drown herself in the Marne, but was saved by some country people. She had since been closely watched. But, eluding the vigilance of her keepers, she yesterday morning took a revolver belonging to her nephew, a retired officer, and, holding the muzzle to her right ear, shot herself dead. The bullet lodged in the brain.

SPIRONE is the remedy for Coughs and Colds, Asthma, Bronchitis, Inflammation and Congestion of the Lungs, Pneumonia, Pleurisy, Whooping Cough, Croup, Diphtheria, Pharyngitis, Laryngitis, Catarrh, Sore Throat, Quinsy, Enlarged Tonsils, Hoarseness, Loss of Voice, Colds in the Head, Ozena, Hay Fever, and all other Complaints of the Respiratory Organs.—THE SPIRONE COMPANY, LIMITED, 17A, Duke-street, Manchester-square, London. Pamphlet post free on demand. Free Dispensary for the Poor at 99, Marylebone-road, W.—[ADVT.]

THE RAILWAY DISASTER IN AMERICA.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

BOSTON, March 16.—According to the latest authentic estimate, twenty-four persons were killed outright in the Jamaica Plain railway disaster and fifteen fatally hurt, making the total loss of life thirty-nine. The number of those whose injuries were not fatal is given at over 100.

GENERAL BOULANGER.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

PARIS, March 16.—Several of this morning's newspapers, commenting on a controversy which has arisen between General Boulanger and the Army Commission concerning a letter which the War Minister wrote to the Commission advising the suppression of the Ecole Polytechnique as a military college, reproach the Minister with having published the letter without previously submitting it to the Cabinet.

ENGLAND AND GREECE.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

ATHENS, March 15.—In the Chamber of Deputies to-day, the Opposition called attention to the opinions expressed by M. Tricoupis upon affairs of State, as detailed by Sir Horace Rumbold in a despatch, dated the 3rd of April, 1886, published in an English Blue Book. There was a prolonged debate on the matter, the Opposition violently attacking M. Tricoupis, whom they accused of betraying his country. M. Tricoupis, in his reply, confirmed the opinion he had expressed to Sir Horace Rumbold, that Greece, in the state in which she then was, could do nothing.

EDUCATION MADE EASY.

(From Punch.)

In the City, before Alderman KUMITSTRONG.—A Small Boy is placed in the Dock.

Alderman: What is the charge?—Clerk: Stealing boots, your Worship.—Alderman: What do you say, boy?—Boy: Nothink, Sir.—Alderman: Why did you steal the boots?—Boy: Nothink else to do, Sir.—Alderman: What does he mean? Is there any one in court who knows this boy?—A Working Man (stepping forward): I am the father of the boy, Sir.—Alderman: How old is he?—Father: Thirteen, Sir.—Alderman: Well, you hear what he has been doing—stealing boots. What do you say about it?—Father (with grumpy resignation): It is all fault of School Board.—Alderman: What do you mean, man? What on earth has the School Board to do with it?—Father (as if he were delighted to have it out with somebody): Well, I'll just tell you, Sir. You see this 'ere boy is a werry good boy, and he can read and write, and do his 'rithmetic with the best on 'em. So Jem Snooks, the greengrocer, 'ires him at six bob a week, which he did his work reg'lar, and every Saturday night came 'ome with his six bob, and give it to his mother.—Alderman: Well, what then? What has all this to do with stealing the boots?—Father: Well, as I was a sayin', he came 'ome reg'lar on Saturday night, but one night he came 'ome a crying and said he'd got the sack, but he brought his six bob all the same.—Alderman: And why, as you call it, had he got the sack?—Father: 'Cause he said School Board man wouldn't let him stop. So on the Monday mornin' I goes to Jem Snooks, and says I to Jem, says I, "Why did you give Tommy the sack? Ain't he a good boy, and don't he do his work reg'lar?" And, says Jem to me, "Tommy is a werry good boy, and does his work reg'lar; but School Board man came and looked beastly glum, and says he, 'If you don't pack off that 'ere boy this very day, I'll have you up before the beaks, and you'll be fined and imprisoned, and have your goods sold up, 'aties and inguns and all, and no mistake.' So what could I do?" said Jem, "but send away Tommy?"—Alderman (a bit puzzled): They must now go to school up to fourteen?—The Clerk: That is so, Sir.—Alderman (to Father of the Boy): Well, I have listened to your story, but what it has to do with stealing the boots I don't understand.—Father: Just this, your Worship. This 'ere boy you have 'eard is a good boy, and though swells, such as you, mayn't think much of six bob a week, it is a mighty 'elp to poor fathers like us, in sich times as these. And Tommy having been used to hear a 'onest penny and 'elps, tho' I say it, to keep the younger kids, would not go back to school again. And so, having nothin' to do, he falls in with some idle chaps, and they persuade him to steal the boots.—Alderman: And you would really have me believe that the School Board has made him a thief. Ha! ha! ha! that is a joke indeed. But there must be some inquiry made about this boy. I will remand him for a week.

THE RENT QUESTION IN IRELAND.

The evidence given in the report of the Cowper Commission will, the Dublin correspondent of the *Times* says, enable the public to judge what is the true cause of the "unsettled" state of those districts. There is no improvement since that evidence was given. The following extract from a letter received from a tenant in a southern county shows how great is the intimidation:—

I hope to send you cheque before —. I must request of you, when you get my cheque, to consider it in confidence, as since — has been put out the feeling about here is very bad; and, were it to come out I paid, fire or cattle-killing would be my lot. Talk of law or protection, there is none now. I call it rebellion, not open as yet, but, like a fire in the hold of a ship, it is smouldering and will burst out by and by with tenfold vigour. Better had it come to blows long ago. I will be in Dublin —, and maybe it would be better to pay you in cash, as bank-clerks, I fear, at least some of them, are in the swim.

Another tenant, writing from the county Waterford, says:—

The Land Leaguers are getting troublesome down about here. They had a large meeting in Kilmacthomas yesterday, and it was said they were not to pay rent or taxes any more, and at — they are making the most of their time, having meetings every Sunday, so it will be hard to get rent next time if the Government do not interfere with them very soon."

A STRAY TORPEDO.

Shortly after the Union Steamship Company's steamer *Athenian* had arrived in Plymouth Sound yesterday a heavy thump was felt on the vessel's port bow. On looking over the *Athenian's* side, it was seen that a torpedo had struck the vessel. Considerable alarm was felt; but it was found that the projectile was not loaded. It had been discharged from a torpedo-boat which was practising in the Sound and had deviated from its course.

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.]

DOCKYARD ADMINISTRATION AND EXPENDITURE.

A further report of the Committees appointed to inquire into dockyard administration and expenditure is issued as a parliamentary Blue Book to-day. The recommendations of the Committee in regard to dockyard management and other points have in some respects been carried out, and further changes are being made. The office of Director of Dockyards has been created for the purpose of securing efficient management, and for controlling the employment of labour and the appropriation of materials. An Inspector of Yard Accounts has also been appointed for the supervision of all expenditure in dockyards. Civil professional assistants to the naval superintendents have been appointed at Portsmouth, Devonport, and Chatham dockyards. Secretaries to superintendents specially associated with financial business have been appointed to assist the superintendents so as to improve the local financial control. The general question of Admiralty contracting has been referred to a special committee for consideration. Depôts for stores in frequent use are to be established near work in hand, so as to be at the more convenient disposal of the officers, and to avoid delay and waste of time in procuring articles from the storehouses. A sub-committee has been appointed to consider the system under which stores are issued to her Majesty's ships and to the yards. The general organization of the clerical staff and the number of persons employed in writing is under consideration, and it is hoped that the reorganization contemplated will be final. Expenditure in the various branches is about to be classified, so that individual officers can be made responsible for the expenditure in each department. Instructions have also been sent to the commanders-in-chief that repairs which can be made on ships in commission by the ships, artificers are never to be sent to the dockyards. The number of returns and reports hitherto made in various departments has been greatly reduced, and in other cases the periods at which they are to be made have been extended so as to lessen the work. The Sub-Committee on Supplies of Stores and Materials by Contract etc., came to the conclusion:—

(a) That the arrangements for entering into contracts are not in all respects satisfactory, as, under existing instructions, contracts may be and have been negotiated by the Contract Department, and entered into without due consultation with the departmental officers for whom the stores are required. (b) That "special articles" are, as a rule, of desired and suitable quality; but the evidence showed there was required an improvement in the quality of many articles of stock, especially in those which, like tools, are used by dockyard workmen. (c) That the prompt delivery of goods has not been sufficiently enforced, and the existing means of hastening them have proved to be ineffectual. (d) That the receipt and examination of articles has not been properly carried out, that the duties have been perfunctorily performed, and that unnecessary delays and expense have often occurred; and (e) that the responsibility at the Admiralty for securing the stipulated quality of the articles requisitioned rests with the Contract Department, and that in the opinion of the Commissioners there has been division and weakening of responsibility in this respect, and an unnecessary transference of discretionary power as to quality from the users, which has acted detrimentally to the interests of the service.

THE SNOW-STORM.

The average depth of the snow which fell in the London district yesterday was about six inches. The metropolis had an exceedingly cheerless appearance this morning. The traffic had converted the snow into blackened slush, and, as this is rapidly melting under the influence of the powerful sunshine, the streets are in an exceedingly dirty state. In the suburbs the snow still lies several inches thick upon the ground; but in the metropolitan area the vestry authorities have given employment to large gangs of men to remove the snow. The readings of the thermometer and barometer are again interesting by comparison. At no time yesterday did the former rise higher than 33 deg., or one degree above freezing; and during the night it fell to 29 deg. In the preceding twenty-four hours the highest reading was 41 deg., and the lowest 27 deg. (5 deg. of frost). The barometer has risen from 29.80 to 29.90.

Notices were placarded yesterday at the different stone-yards belonging to the St. Pancras Vestry, that labourers who came with shovels would be engaged to clear snow from the roadways at the rate of 3s. 6d. per day. This morning several hundreds of men assembled at the different works, and some 600 of them were engaged, whilst quite as many had to be turned away.

After an almost entire immunity from snow this winter in the Isle of Wight, a sharp fall began last night, and this morning the island had quite a wintry aspect. It is unusually cold, although on Monday the thermometer stood at 80 deg. in the shade, and the sun shone brilliantly. Snow fell at Guernsey during last night, and this morning a thick layer covered the ground. It soon melted, however, under the bright sunshine to-day.

Many valuable trees and shrubs at the Royal Botanical Gardens at Kew have again been seriously injured by snow. This is the third time within about three months that great damage has been done in Kew Gardens in this way.

A married woman, named Kendrick, walked over the snow last night into the canal at Merthyr Tydvil. Her body was recovered this morning.

MR. RUSKIN.

The following note from Mr. Ruskin appears in the circular of his publisher Mr. Allen:—"I have directed Mr. Allen, in this and all future issues of his list of my purchasable works, to advertise none but those which he is able to despatch to order by return of post. The just estimate of decline in the energy of advancing age,—the warnings, now thrice repeated, of disabling illness consequent on any unusual exertion of thought,—and chiefly, the difficulty I now find in addressing a public for whom, in the course of the last few years of revolution, old things have passed away, and all things become new, render it, in my thinking, alike irreverent and unwise to speak of any once-intended writings as 'in preparation.' I may perhaps pray the courtesy of my readers—and here and there the solicitude of my friends—to refer, at the time of the monthly issue of magazines, to this circular of Mr. Allen's, in which they will always find the priced announcement of anything I have printed during the month. May I also venture to hint to friends who may at any time be anxious about me that the only trustworthy evidences of my health are my writings; and that it is a prettier attention to an old man to read what he wishes to say, and can say without effort, than to require him to answer vexing questions on general subjects or to add to his day's appointed labour the burden of accidental and unnecessary correspondence."

NEW YORK and ENO'S FRUIT SALT.—"Sir,—Can I purchase your Fruit Salt in New York; if so, where? Was presented with a bottle in England last summer—did me no end of real, solid good for my bilious attacks. Think there's nothing made like it in the States.—Yours, faithfully, AMERICANUS."—CAUTION.—Examine each Bottle, and see the Capsule is marked "ENO'S FRUIT SALT." Without it you have been imposed on by a worthless imitation. Sold by all Chemists. Directions in Sixteen Languages How to prevent Disease. Prepared only at ENO'S FRUIT SALT Works, HATCHEM, London, S.E., by J. C. ENO'S Patent.—[ADVT.]

TRADE AND FINANCE.

The receipts into the Exchequer up to Saturday night last amounted to £85,103,385, being £1,451,229 more than at the corresponding date last year. During the past week there came in £2,139,219. There were still two weeks and four days to account for. If the collections for this period are at last week's rate there would be received £5,704,584, making the total revenue for the financial year £90,807,969, or £938,969 more than the estimate. Customs up to Saturday night show an increase over the corresponding period of last year of £335,000, and Excise a decrease of £291,000. The two together, therefore, show an increase of £44,000, stamps show an increase of £187,000, and income tax an increase of £1,153,000. There seems, then, good reason to anticipate that the estimate of revenue will be materially exceeded. The expenditure up to Saturday night amounted to £82,063,288, or £1,717,095 less than at the corresponding date last year. During the past week the disbursements from the Exchequer were £1,559,938, and up to Saturday night the expenditure of the year was £7,554,918 less than the estimate. During the next fortnight the disbursements will be very large.

The money market was very quiet yesterday. The Stock Exchange Settlement, though showing more speculation for the rise than has existed since January, has yet caused but a slight demand, for the account open for the rise is still small; and for trade purposes, notwithstanding undoubted improvement, the demand is also small: bills, that is to say, are scarce, and the quotation remains $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. For short loans the rates ranged from $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. for loans for the day to from 3 to $3\frac{1}{4}$ for longer periods.

Owing to the snow-storm and fog there was a small attendance of members in the Stock Exchange yesterday, and of outside operators a still larger proportion stayed away from the City. There was, therefore, very little business, and for the greater part of the day markets were dull. In the later afternoon, however, there was a general improvement, due mainly to the Berlin Bourse. At the close Russian bonds were from $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 higher than on Monday, Egyptian from $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$, Italian $\frac{1}{4}$, and Hungarian $\frac{1}{2}$. But it was in Home Railway stocks that again speculation was most active. Great Northern A rose $2\frac{1}{4}$, District and Sheffield A $1\frac{1}{4}$ each, South-Eastern Deferred $\frac{1}{2}$, and Metropolitan and North Staffordshire 1 to $1\frac{1}{2}$. Grand Trunk of Canada stocks advanced from $\frac{3}{4}$ to $1\frac{1}{4}$, and Mexican Railway stocks from 1 to $1\frac{1}{2}$. The movement is mainly the work of foreign speculators and "House" buying, having very little support from the outside public. The market for American Railroad securities, on the other hand, remained quiet. So much money was lost during the recent scare that few are inclined to incur risk in these securities just yet. The closing, however, was firm.

The sales of remittances by the India Council last week slightly exceeded those of the week before; but it is evident that the demand for remittance has fallen off. We believe that the exports from India at present are very large. All the crops promise exceedingly well, and the prospect is that the export trade will be quite up to the average; while it is further probable that the value of money will continue to rise for some time yet. One would naturally expect, therefore, a strong demand for remittances and a rise in the prices of both bills and transfers; but against this is the fact that Lancashire merchants are becoming alarmed, and, as they did last year, are trying to "fix the exchange forward," and are thus forcing down exchange.

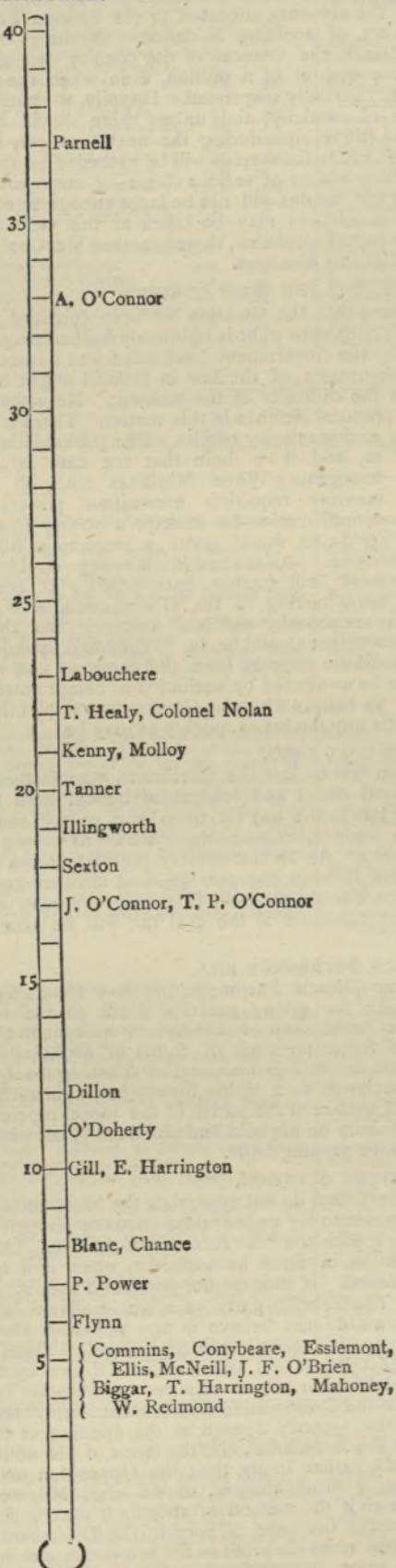
If Mr. Garrett really does sell his control of the Baltimore and Ohio, it will probably result in the complete success of the syndicate which brought about an alliance between the New York Central and the Pennsylvania, which is now carrying through the reorganization of the Reading, and which has already subordinated the Erie and the coal lines to the two great through lines—the Pennsylvania and the New York Central. The ultimate object of the syndicate is to not only establish but to maintain and perpetuate harmony between the great companies serving New York. For this purpose it is thought necessary to make the Pennsylvania and the New York Central the two great through lines; to subordinate to them the Erie and the Baltimore and the Baltimore and Ohio, and to work in conjunction with them, but also in subordination of the Reading, the New York Central, the Lakawanna, and other lines. The economic result to the country and to the companies can hardly fail to be satisfactory, assuming that this policy is resolutely carried out and maintained. The Pennsylvania and the New York Central are financially the strongest of all the companies, and they have the best lines connecting New York with the west and north-west. They can carry both goods and passengers cheaper than any competitor; and in addition to that they have the best local traffic. From every point of view they are, therefore, very much stronger than any of their competitors; and competition can only result in loss to their shareholders, not in real gain to the competitors; but a loss to all the great carrying companies must in the long run inflict loss upon the community. No service can be efficiently and satisfactorily rendered which is not profitable to those who render it. Besides, after every war of rates and fierce competition there follows a period of combination and pooling, in which event the customers of the lines have no cause to congratulate themselves on the previous wars of rates. Lastly, we saw, in the war of rates provoked by the West Shore, that not only do the companies themselves suffer, and is the service rendered less efficient, but the whole community suffers. There is a commercial crisis brought on, and the economic condition of the country is deteriorated. A permanent harmonizing of the interests of all the companies is desirable, therefore, both for the companies themselves, for those whom they serve, and for the general community. Lastly, it is clear that the companies could work more cheaply and could make their service more efficient if the New York Central and the Pennsylvania could distribute the traffic among the various subordinate companies according to the ability of each to convey it most economically. It would really be better for each company, including both the two superiors and

the subordinates, to carry only the kind of traffic most suited to it and the amount which it could carry most economically, and to give to other companies the traffic for which they had the greatest convenience; and this would be possible if the policy of the great syndicate is realized.

"THE OBSTRUCTOMETER."

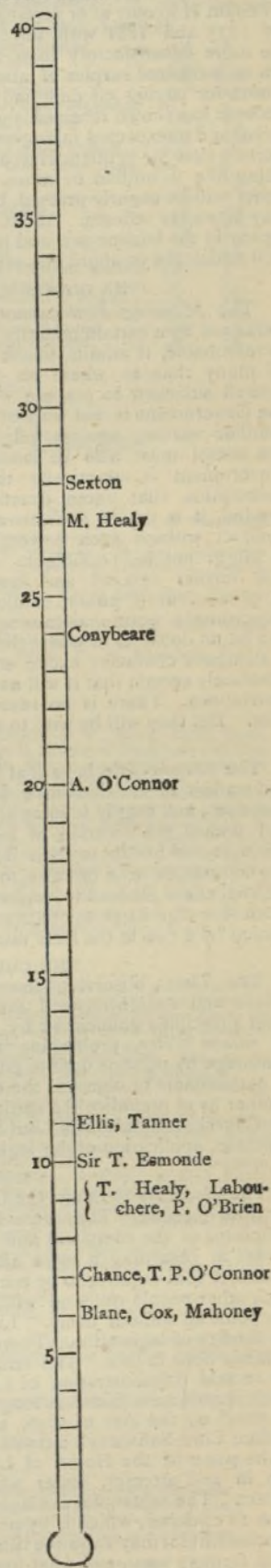
TO-DAY we present the public with a further reading of the House of Commons obstructometer. It will be seen that there is a large increase to note since last week. Some very promising obstructors, not yet included in the list, are coming well to the front, and we shall soon be compelled to give them the prominence they deserve. Meanwhile it is interesting to examine the figures as they stand. Including the short sittings on Wednesdays and excluding question-time, seven hours may be taken as a liberal estimate of an average sitting of the House. Allowing a quarter of an hour as the average length of the speeches of the gentlemen in our list, we shall find that they have occupied no less than ninety-seven hours out of the 189 working hours of the present session. In other words, that thirty members who, to put it very mildly, certainly do not represent the wit, the intellect, or the talent of the House in a very overwhelming degree, have hitherto occupied more than one-half of the time of Parliament. Comment is unnecessary. The scandal is grave and daily increasing.

SPEECHES.



Speeches, total 388.
Speakers " 30.

QUESTIONS.



Questions, total 355.
Questioners " 15.

Time, 27 working days from January 28 to March 12 inclusive.

THE MORNING PAPERS.

THE PROCEEDINGS IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The *Standard* cannot read the record of the proceedings in the House of Commons without a feeling of impatience, and even of indignation. On one ground, perhaps, it is not wholly to be regretted that the opponents of the closure have had an opportunity of proving beyond all reach of cavil the need of such a drastic remedy. But the policy of giving the malcontents rope enough may be carried too far. It is a melancholy evidence of the degradation of our parliamentary system that twelve days of public time should have been squandered in talk—to a large extent frivolous and almost wholly perfunctory—as to whether a rule which the House of Commons has, by an overwhelming majority, approved is or is not to be qualified by the addition of this or that proviso, the only recommendation of which is that it would mischievously attenuate the wholesome effect of the main reform. It is not the delicacy of the closure problem that stands in the way; but the resolve of the Irish Obstructors to make the most of their remaining advantages. Just in proportion to their determination ought to be the resolution of the House to become master of itself. It is certainly time that some decisive action were taken.

THE COMING BUDGET.

The *Times* is afraid that, at the close of the financial year, on the 31st inst., the state of the national revenue and expenditure, though in some respects encouraging, and exhibiting a marked improvement upon Sir William Harcourt's Estimates in April last, will hardly afford scope for any large measures of fiscal reform. It is something, however, that Mr. Goschen should be able to reckon upon a more substantial and trustworthy surplus than the exiguous and shadowy balance worked out by Sir William Harcourt after diverting the amounts allocated to the Sinking Funds of 1875 and 1881 with the object of avoiding a deficit. Nothing could be more unsatisfactory than to leave the finances of the country dependent on an estimated surplus of about a quarter of a million, even when the provision for paying off debt had been partially suspended. Happily, the national income has shown renewed signs of elasticity, and, unless there should be a great and unexpected falling-off in the receipts during the next fortnight, it is certain that Sir William Harcourt's estimated surplus will be exceeded by something like a million or more. The claims of various classes of taxpayers for relief will be eagerly pressed, but the surplus will not be large enough to cover any extensive scheme. About two millions may be taken as the yield of a penny in the income tax, and it is hardly probable, therefore, that Mr. Goschen will undertake to afford any relief in this direction.

THE GOVERNMENT AND THE IRISH QUESTION.

The *Morning Post* cannot deny that the situation has been confused and darkened by a certain quantity of doubt as to what is ultimately forthcoming. It is reasonable, it admits, to ask why the Government have not taken advantage of many chances where an enforcement of the law in Ireland might have proved sufficient to grapple with the difficulty of the moment. Nevertheless the Government is not without a practical defence in this matter. There is the familiar warning against judging exclusively by results. The probabilities at the outset must also be looked to, and it is here that the case for the Government is practically the strongest. When Ministers start on the assumption that some drastic measure requiring exceptional powers is needed, it is *prima facie* an act of indiscretion to attempt a strong line of conduct without such powers. To do so would invite a resistance which it might not be possible to overcome. As a result authority would be still further relaxed and lawlessness still further encouraged. It seems at present as if public opinion were looking to the Government, and the Government were maintaining a reciprocally watchful attitude. But there can be no doubt as to where the movement should begin. Whether proposals of a stringent character excite enthusiastic support from the party or not, it is absolutely certain that it will never be awakened by hesitation or compromise of convictions. There is no reason to believe that the Government think otherwise. But they will be wise to settle any doubts as quickly as may be.

THE COAL DUES.

The *Standard* declares that from first to last the merchants, manufacturers, and traders of London have derived direct and substantial benefit from the coal dues, and that it is somewhat late in the day for them now to turn round and preach the doctrine of high finance, denouncing the tax as wrong in principle and hurtful to their interests. As for the colliery proprietors and the gas companies, who promise to give London cheaper fuel and cheaper gas if the coal tax is allowed to expire, the *Standard's* faith in their promises is very much less than its certainty that the cessation of the coal tax will be accompanied by a rise in the local rates.

THE CHURCH PATRONAGE BILL.

The *Times*, observing that the Church Patronage Bill now stands as a simple and straightforward measure for giving practical effect to the two main principles enunciated by the Archbishop of Canterbury as constituting its *raison d'être*, prohibiting the future purchase of rights of ecclesiastical patronage by persons unfit to possess or exercise them, and establishing the right of parishioners to object to the exercise of such rights by any patron in such a manner as to prejudice the spiritual welfare of the parish or the moral repute of the Church, congratulates Lord Salisbury on his bold and unflinching, but withal judicious, application of the legislative pruning-knife.

THE TITHE QUESTION.

The *Daily News* thinks the Government do not appreciate the importance of the tithe question. They seem disposed to lay undue stress upon the temporary symptoms of the complaint and to ignore the real root of the disease. They persist in regarding a mere alteration in form as sufficient, when it is the substance that requires to be remodelled. If they cannot go behind the Act of 1836, other people can, and will. The Liberal party as a whole should take this point up without delay. Liberals do not believe in any nonsense about the finality of legislation. There may be finality in the next world. There is certainly none in this. The strange thing is not that a scheme drawn up by the second Administration of Lord Melbourne now requires modification but that it should have lasted so long. If the Conservative Government simply takes its stand on the Act of 1836, as the Queen's Speech at the opening of the session, Lord Salisbury's answer to the deputation, and the terms of his notice on the paper of the House of Lords, rather imply, then the Opposition must step in and attempt, under whatever disadvantages, to do what Ministers neglect. The septennial average, even if the method of striking it were impervious to criticism, which is by no means the case, is open to the fundamental objection that it may raise the tithe just when the profit on the soil is diminishing. What farmers want, and what from some quarter or other they are determined to get, is a system which will secure the tithe being fixed at about a tenth part of the annual value of the land. There is nothing unjust, or confiscatory, or sensational in this cry of the agriculturists for a recognition of their rights.

MR. RUSKIN'S AUTOBIOGRAPHY.

Chapter X. of Volume II. of Mr. Ruskin's "Præterita" is issued to-day, and we subjoin a few extracts.

"MODERN PAINTERS."

Referring to the completion of the second volume of "Modern Painters," he says:—

The style of the book was formed on a new model, given me by Osborne Gordon. I was old enough now to feel that neither Johnsonian balance nor Byronic alliteration were ultimate virtues in English prose; and I had been reading with care, on Gordon's counsel, both for its arguments and its English, Richard Hooker's "Ecclesiastical Polity." I had always a trick of imitating, more or less, the last book I had read with admiration; and it farther seemed to me that for the purposes of argument (and my own theme was, according to my notion, to be argued out invincibly), Hooker's English was the perfectest existing model. At all events, I did the best I then knew how, leaving no passage till I had put as much thought into it as it could be made to carry, and chosen the words with the utmost precision and tune I could give them. For the first time in my life, when I had finished the last sentence I was really tired. In too long readings at Oxford I got stupid and sleepy, but not fatigued; now, however, I felt distinctly that my head could do no more; and, with much satisfied thankfulness, after the revise of the last sheet was sent to printer, found myself on the bows of the little steamer, watching their magical division of the green waves between Dover and Calais. As I had done my second volume greatly to my father's and mother's delight (they used both to cry a little, at least my father generally did, over the pretty passages when I read them after breakfast), it had been agreed that they should both go with me that summer to see all the things and pictures spoken of—Ilaria, and the Campo Santo, and St. Mary's of the Thorn, and the School of St. Roch. Though tired, I was in excellent health and proud hope; they also at their best and gladdest.

CRITICS AT VARIANCE.

This journey was made in the beginning of the year 1846; and we are told that after a rest at Champagnole, the party crossed the Ceris to Turin, Verona, and Venice.

I began showing my father all my new discoveries in architecture and painting. But there began now to assert itself a difference between us I had not calculated on. For the first time I verily perceived that my father was older than I, and not immediately nor easily to be put out of his way of thinking in anything. We had been entirely of one mind about the carved porches of Abbeville and living pictures of Vandyck; but when my father now found himself required to admire also flat walls, striped like the striped calico of an American flag, and oval-eyed saints like the figures on a Chinese teacup, he grew restive. Farther, all the fine writing and polite *decal* of "Modern Painters" had never reconciled him to my total resignation of the art of poetry; and beyond this he entirely, and with acute sense of loss to himself, doubted and deplored my now constant habit of making little patches and scratches of the sections and fractions of things in a note-book which used to live in my waistcoat-pocket, instead of the former *Præterita* or Robertian outline of grand buildings and sublime scenes. And I was the more viciously stubborn in taking my own way, just because everybody was with him in these opinions; and I was more and more persuaded every day that everybody was always wrong. Often in my other books—and now, once for all, and finally here—I have to pray my readers to note that this continually increasing arrogance was not founded on vanity in me, but on sorrow. There is a vast difference—there is all the difference—between the vanity of displaying one's own faculties, and the grief that other people do not use their own. Vanity would have led me to continue writing and drawing what every one praised; and disciplining my own already practised hand into finer dexterities. But I had no thought but of learning more, and teaching what truth I knew—assuredly then, and ever since, for the student's sake, not my own fame's, however sensitive I may be to the fame also afterwards.

A SUNNY AFTERNOON AT PISA.

Here is the record of an incident at Pisa:—

Meantime, my father and I did not get on well in Italy at all, and one of the worst, wasp-barbed, most tingling pangs of my memory is yet of a sunny afternoon at Pisa, when, just as we were driving past my pet La Spina chapel, my father, waking out of a reverie, asked me suddenly, "John, what shall I give the coachman?" Whereupon I, instead of telling him what he asked me, as I ought to have done with much complacency at being referred to on the matter, took upon me with impatience to reprove, and lament over, my father's hardness of heart in thinking at that moment of sublimity affairs. And the spectral Spina of the chapel has stayed in my own heart ever since.

AT AMBLESIDE.

On returning to England Mr. Ruskin went in the early spring to the Salutation at Ambleside, then yet a country village, and its inn a country inn:—

But there, whether it was the grilled salmon for breakfast, or too prolonged reflections on the Celestial Hierarchies, I fell into a state of despondency till then unknown to me, and of which I knew not the like again till fourteen years afterwards. The whole morning was painfully spent in balancing phrases; and from my boat, in the afternoons on Windermere, it appeared to me that the water was leaden, and the hills were low. Lockhart, on the first reception of the laboured MS., asked me to cut out all my best bits (just as Keble had done before with my prize poem). In both cases I submitted patiently to the loss of my feathers; but was seriously angry and disgusted when Lockhart also intimated to me that a sentence in which I had with perfect justice condemned Mr. Gally Knight's representation "out of his own head" of San Michele at Lucca, could not—Mr. Gally Knight being a *protégé* of Albemarle-street—appear in the *Quarterly*. This first clear insight into the arts of bookselling and reviewing made me permanently distrustful of both trades; and I returned to town in a temper and state of health in which my father and mother thought that once more the best place for me would be Leamington. I thought so myself, too; and went penitently again to Jephson, who at once stopped the grilled salmon, and ordered salts and promenade, as before.

STUDIES IN VARIOUS ARTS.

Mr. Ruskin informs us that half his power of ascertaining facts of any kind connected with the arts is in his stern habit of doing the thing with his own hands till he knows its difficulty:—

Thus, when I had to direct road-making at Oxford, I sate, myself, with an iron-masked stone-breaker, on his heap, to break stones beside the London road, just under Ifley Hill, till I knew how to advise my too impetuous pupils to effect their purposes in that matter. I learned from an Irish street-crossing-sweeper what he could teach me of sweeping; but found myself in that matter nearly his match, from my boy-gardening; and again and again I swept bits of St. Giles' foot-pavements, showing my corps of subordinates how to finish into depths of gutter. I worked with a carpenter until I could take an even shaving six feet long off a board; and painted enough with properly and delightfully soppy green paint to feel the master's superiority in the use of a blunt brush. But among all these and other such studentships the reader will be surprised, I think, to hear, seriously, that the instrument I finally decided to be the most difficult of management was the trowel. For accumulated months of my boy's life I watched bricklaying and paving; but, when I took the trowel into my own hand, abandoned at once all hope of attaining the least real skill with it, unless I gave up all thoughts of any future literary or political career.

STOCKS AND SHARES.

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

COLONIAL GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.

Canada, Dominion of, 5p. ct. 1903	112	114
Ditto, ditto 4 p. cent. 1904-5-6-8	105½	106½
Cape of Good Hope 1890-1900	—	—
Ditto 1891	—	—
Ditto 5 per cent. 1900	107	109
Ditto 4½ per cent.	103	104
Ditto (June & Dec.)	102	103
Ditto 2 per cent. (Mar. & Sept.)	101	103
Natal 4½ per cent. 1890-1900	101	103
Ditto 5 per cent. 1890-1900	104	105
New South Wales, 1888 to 1894	101	107
Ditto 5 per cent. 1895 to 1900	105	107
Ditto 2 per cent. 1892 to 1898	105	107
New Zealand 6 per cent. 1891	105	108
Ditto 5 per cent. 1914	112	114
Ditto 5 per cent. Consols	102	104
Ditto 6 p. cent. March 15, 1891	104	106
Ditto ditto (June & Dec.)	106	108
Ditto 4½ p. cent. 5-30, 1890-1900	—	—
Ditto ditto 1888-19	100½	101½
Ditto ditto 1889	101	103
Quebec (Province of) 5 p. c. 1904	109	111
Ditto ditto 1906	109	111
Queensland 6 per cent. 1891-189	106	108
Ditto 4 per cent. 1913-1915	99	100
South Australian 6 p. c. 1891-1900	—	—
Ditto ditto 1901-1912	115	116
Ditto 5 per cent. 1911-1920	106	107
Ditto 4 per cent. 1920	100	102
Ditto ditto 1916	99	101
Straits Settlements Gov. 4½ p. c.	103	105
Tasmanian 6 per cent. 1895	110	115
Ditto 4 per cent. 1 July, 1908	100	101
Victoria 6 per cent. 1891	106	108
Ditto 5 per cent. 1894	106	108
Ditto 4 per cent. 1899-1901	102	103
Western Australian 4½ per cent.	105	107
Ditto ditto 4 per cent.	101	103

REGISTERED AND INSCRIBED STOCKS.

Canada 4 p. c. Stock Reg., 1904	101½	105½
Do. Loan for 4,000,000, 1910	104½	105½
C. of Good Hope 4 p. c. Stock Reg	99	100
Do. (Loan of 1893) Ins.	100	101
Ceylon 4 p. c. Inscribed Stock	103½	104½
Natal 4 p. c. Consol. Stock Reg	97	98
New South Wales 4 p. c. Ins	107	108
Do. 3½ per cent. Stock Ins	93	94
Do. 3½ do. Stock, 1883	—	—
Queensland Stock Ins.	90½	100½
S. Australia (Loans of 1882-3-4)	97	100
Victoria 4 p. cent. Railway Loan	104	105
1881, Inscribed Stock	—	—
Victoria 4 p. cent. Loans of 1882,	105	106
1883, and 1884, do. 1908	105	106
W. Australia Loan of 4,225,000 Stk	103½	104½

AMERICAN SECURITIES.

Massachusetts 5 per cent. 1888	101	103
Atlantic First Leased Lines Rental	—	—
Trust	75	77
Baltimore & Potomac 1st M. Line	124	126
Central Pacific of California Six	—	—
per Cent. First Mortgage	118	122
Delaware and Hudson Canal	—	—
Mortgage Bonds, 1894	118	122
Denver & Rio Grande 1st Con. M.B	80	82
Lehigh Valley Con. Mortgage	132	135
New York Central and Hudson	—	—
River Seven per Cent. Mort.	133	138
New York, Pennsylvania and	—	—
Ohio Third Mortgage	4½	5½
Norfolk and Western Preferred	49	50
St. Louis Bridge 1st Pref. Stock	105	107
Ditto 2nd Preferred Stock	52	54
Do. 1st Mortgage Gold Bonds	124	128
Union Pacific Railway 1st Mort.	118	122
Union Pacific Land Grant	100	105

STERLING BONDS.

Allegheny Valley, 1910	132	134
Atlantic First Leased Lines Rental	—	—
Trust, 4 per cent. Mt. Debs	84	86
Baltimore and Ohio 6 p. c., 1902	118	120
Ditto 6 per cent. 1910	114	116
Ditto 5 per cent. 1877	112	113
Memphis and Ohio	118	121
N.Y.C. & Hudson River 6 p. cent	122	123
Pennsylvania General Mortgage	126	129
Ditto Consolidated ditto	120	122
Pittsburg & Connellsville 6 p. c	128	130
Union Pacific Rail. Omaha Bridge	123	128
United N. Jersey Ry. Canal 1894	103	110

RAILWAYS.—BRITISH POSSESSIONS.

Atlantic and St. Lawrence 6 p. c.	139	141
Bombay, Baroda, & Central India	—	—
guaranteed 5 per cent.	160	163
Buffalo and Lake Huron	114	116
Canada Central Five per Cent	—	—
First Mortgage Bonds	108	110
Can. Pac. S. 5 p. c. First Mort	105½	106½
Chicago and Grand Trunk 6 p. c.	108	110
Demerara 7 p. c. Perpetual Pref	128	132
Eastern Bengal 4 p. c. Guar. Deb. Stk	106	108
East Indian, Annuity A	22½	23½
Ditto Annuity B, 41 per annum	24½	25
Ditto Def. Annuity Cap. Guar.	—	—
4 per cent.	116	119
Do. Irredeem. Deb. Stk. 4½ p. c.	119	121
Great Indian Peninsula Guarant	—	—
teed Five per Cent.	145	147
Do. 4 per Cent. Deb. Stock	107	109
Hamilton & N. W. 1st M. 6 p. c.	106	108
Madras guaranteed 5 per cent.	125	127
Ditto ditto 4½ per cent.	118	122
Ditto ditto 4½ per cent.	112	116
Melbourne and Hobson's Bay	—	—
United 5 per cent. Bonds	105	107
M. of Canada Sterling 1st Mort	—	—
gage	100	102
Do. (Con.) 5 per cent. 1st Mort	98	100
Nizam's State Railway Guarant	—	—
teed 5 per Cent. Shares	107	109
N. of Canada 6 p. c. Pref Stock	55	60
Ditto 5 per cent. 1st Mortgage	104	106
Ditto 3rd Pref. Bonds A and B	94	96
Ditto North. Exten. 6 p. c.	104	105
Ditto ditto 6 p. c. Impr. Mort.	104	105
Ditto 4 per cent. Deb. Stock	82	84
Ont. & Quebec 5 p. c. Perp. Deb. Stk	109½	110½
Oude & Rohilkund 5 per cent	125	127
Ditto 4 per cent. Deb. Stock	105	107
St. John and Maine	31	33
Scinde, Punjab, & Delhi 5 p. c.	—	—
South Indian Guar. 5 per cent.	125	127
Ditto 4½ per cent. Deb. Stock	114	116
S. Mahatma Guar. 4 p. c. till 1889	102	103
Ditto 4 per cent. Deb. Stock	105	107
Tasmanian Main Line Debenture	—	—
4 per cent. Stock	83	86
Toronto, Grey, and Bruce 4 per	—	—
cent. 1st Mortgage	85	86
Wellington, Grey, and Bruce 7	—	—
per cent. Bonds, 1st Mortgage	98	100

BRITISH RAILWAYS.

East London Consolidated	10	12
Furness Consolidated	101	104
Glasgow and South-Western Con.	100	103
Hull, Barnsley, and West Riding	—	—
Junction Shares	19½	20½
London, Tilbury, & Southend Co	132	136
Mersey	6	8
North London Consolidated	177	182
Rhymney	160	170

RAILWAYS.—DEBENTURE STOCK.

Caledonian 4 per cent.	116	118
East London 5 per cent.	—	—
Ditto 5 per cent.	—	—
Ditto 6 per cent. 1874	90	110
Ditto 6 per cent. 1875	60	90
Glasgow and S. West. 4 per cent	114	116
Great Eastern 4 per cent.	117	119
Ditto A 5 per cent.	142	144
Ditto B 6½ redm., 5 p. c.	133	135
Ditto 4½ per cent.	129	131
Great Northern 4 p. c.	115	117
Great Western 4 per cent.	118	120
Ditto 4½ per cent.	122	124
Ditto 4½ per cent.	131	133
Lancashire and York, 4 per cent	145	147
London & Blackwall, 4½ per cent	120	122
London and Brighton, 4 per cent.	115	117
London & Chatham 4½ p. c.	129	131
Ditto ditto B 4½ p. c.	123	125
Ditto ditto 4 per cent.	108	110
Ditto ditto 1883	108	110
London & North-Western 4 p. c.	119	121
London & South-Western 4 p. c.	118	120
Ditto ditto B 4 p. c.	118	120
London, Tilbury & 3½ p. c.	102	104
Manch. & Sheffield 4½ per cent.	114	116
Metropolitan 4 per cent.	128	130
Ditto 4½ per cent.	115	117
Ditto 4½ per cent.	126	128
Metropolitan District 6 per cent	98	100
Midland 4 per cent.	106	108
North British 4 per cent.	115	117
Do. E. P. and D. E. 5 per cent	—	—
North-Eastern 4 per cent.	118	120
Ditto 4½ per cent.	131	133
North London 4½ per cent.	131	133
North Staffordshire 4½ p. c.	121	123
South-Eastern Perp. 4 per cent.	116	118
Ditto ditto 5 per cent.	142	144
Taff Vale 4 per cent.	110	113

FOREIGN RAILWAYS.

Antwerp and Rotterdam	21	23
Bahia and San Francisco, 7 p. c.	23	24
Brazilian Imperial Central Bahia	21½	22½
Ditto 6 p. cent. Debenture Stock	112	114
Buenos Ayres Great Southern	163	165
Ditto Extension	14½	15
Ditto 5 p. cent. Debenture Stock	119	121
Buenos Ayres and Rosario Port	8	9
Ditto 8 p. cent. Preference	13½	14½
Ditto 5 p. cent. Deb. Stock	120	122
Buenos Ayres and Pacific Pref.	23½	24½
Buenos Ayres and Rosario Ord.	14½	15
Ditto ditto 7 p. c. Pref.	14½	15
Ditto ditto 5 p. c. Deb. Stock	113	115
Central Argentine Limited	168	170
Ditto 6 per cent. Debent. Stock	139	141
C. Uruguay of Montevideo, Lim	120½	122½
Do. Permt. 6 p. c. Deb. Stock	128	130
Conde d'Eu, Lim., 7 per cent	15½	16½
Copapo	38	40
Dutch Rhenish	16½	17½
Ditto New	3	5
Ditto ditto 1872	3	5
East Argentine, Lim., 7 per cent	101	103
Ditto 6 per cent. Deb. Stock	112	114
Great Western of Brazil 7 p. c.	19	20
Ditto 6 per cent. Deb. Stock	113	115
Imp. Brazilian, Natal, and N. Cruz	7	8
Lima, Limited	6	6½
Namur and Liège 14½ per annum	11½	12½
Ditto 6 per cent. Preference	25	26
N.-W. Uruguay 6 p. c. 1st Pref.	68	70
Ditto, ditto, 5 per cent. 2nd Pref	46	48
Ottoman (Smyrna to Aidin)	12½	13
Prov. Orei-Vitebsk 5 per cent.	17½	18½
Recife and Sao Francisco g.	102	104
Riga and Dunaberg	24½	25½
Royal Sardinian	10	10½
Ditto Preference	11	11½
Royal Swedish	3½	4½
Ditto Preference	3½	4½
Sambre and Meuse	9½	10½
Ditto 5½ per Cent. Preference	11½	12½
San Paulo Brazilian Guar. 7½	41	42
Ditto 5½ p. c. Debenture Stock	131	133
Smyrna and Cassaba, Limited	23½	24½
Ditto 7 per Cent. Preference	25½	26½
Southern Brazilian Rio Grande	—	—
Do Sul Guaranteed 7 per cent	22	22½
Varna	2½	3½
West Flanders	10½	11½
Ditto 5½ per cent. Preference	12	13
West. of Buenos Ayres 6 p. c. Bds	110	112
Do. do. 5 p. c. Mort Deb.	98	99

LAND COMPANIES.

Canada Company	83	85
Canada North-West Land	2½	3½
Natal Land and Colonization	4½	5
Newfoundland Land	1½	2½
Otago and Southland Investment	1½	2½
Peel River Land	83	85
Scottish Australian Investment	195	205
South Australian	60	63
S. Austrin. Land Mort. & Agency	2½	2½
Van Diemen's Land	25	27

TELEGRAPH SHARES.

Anglo-American Preferred	53	54
Ditto Deferred	12	13
Cuba, Limited	12½	13
Ditto 10 per cent. Preference	18	19
Eastern 4 per cent. Debent. Stock	101	103
Eastern Exten. 6 per cent. Debent.	104	107
Great Northern of Copenhagen	13½	13½
Indo-European, Limited	35	35
London P. Brazilian, 6 p. c. Deb.	99	102
Reuter's, Limited	6½	7½
Submarine	185	195
Ditto Scrip	—	—
West India and Panama 1st Pref.	8½	9½
Western Union of U.S. 1 M. Bonds	123	127

BANKS.

Agra, Limited	8½	9
Alliance, Limited	12½	12½
Anglo-Austrian	8	9
Anglo-Californian, Limited	10½	11½
Anglo-Foreign Banking, Limited	8½	9½
Anglo-Italian, 1866, Limited	5½	6½
Bank of Africa, Limited	5	6
Bank of Australasia	103	105
Bank of British Columbia	27	28
Ditto New Issue at 2 prem.	13	14
Bank of British North America	68	70
Bank of Constantinople	4½	5½
Bank of Egypt	28	30
Bank of New South Wales	64	66
Bank of New Zealand	23	24
Bank of Roumania	5½	6½
Bank of South Australia	27	28
Bank of Victoria	36	38
Central of London, Limited	10	11
Chart. of India, Aust., and China	23	24
Com. Bank of Australia, Lim.	16½	17½
Delhi and London, Limited	8½	9½
English Bank of Rio de Jan., Lim	12	14
English Bank of River Plate, Lim.	14	15
Eng., Scottish, and Aust. Chart	11½	12½
Franco-Egyptian, issued at 5 pm.	32	33
German Bank of London, Lim.	10½	11½
Hong Kong & Shanghai Bk. Corp.	53	55
Imperial, Limited	17	18
International Bank of Lond. Lim.	14	15
Ionian	15	16
Lloyds, Barnetts, & Bosanquet, L.	21	22
London and Brazilian, Limited	17	18
London and Hanseatic, Limited	10½	11½
London and Provincial, Limited	13½	14½
London and River Plate, Limited	16	17
London and San Francisco, Lim.	5½	6½
London and South-Western, Lim.	21	22
London Bank of Mexico & South	—	—
America, Limited	3½	4½
London Chartered of Australia	23	24
London, Paris, and Am. Bank, L.	17	19
Mercantile Bank of River Plate, L.	—	—
Merchant, Limited	2½	3½
National, Limited	—	—
National Bank of Australasia	9	9½
Nat. Bank of New Zealand, L.	1½	1½
North-Eastern, Limited	5½	6½
Provincial of Ireland, Limited	19½	20½
Queensland National, Limited	12½	13
Standard of South Africa, Ld.	44½	45½
Union of Australia, Limited	66	68
Union of Spain and England, L.	5	6

GAS COMPANIES.

Commercial, New Stock	205	210
Continental Union Limited	38	39
European, Limited	21	22
Gas Light and Coke A., Ordinary	220	223
Imperial Continental	208	211
South Metropolitan A	302	307

CORPORATION STOCKS.

UNITED KINGDOM.		
Met. B. of Works 3 p. c. Stock	98½	98½
Com. of Sewers City London Scrip	100	101
Corp. of London Bonds, 1886-88	99½	100½

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