

THE ST. JAMES'S GAZETTE

An Evening Review and Record of News.

No. 2124.—VOL. XIV.

SATURDAY, MARCH 26, 1887.

PRICE ONE PENNY.

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COVENT GARDEN.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

TO-NIGHT (Saturday), March 26, at 8 P.M., FAUST. Faust, M. Stefano Gaylus (his first appearance); Mephistopheles, Signor Foli (his first appearance this season); Valentine, Signor del Puente. Siebel, Mlle. Adelina Borghi; Martha, Mlle. Lablache; and Margherita, Mlle. Lillian Nordica. Conductor, Signor Loghede.

MONDAY, March 28, at 8 P.M., Bizet's Opera CARMEN. Don Jose, Signor Ravelli; Escamillo, Signor Del Puente; Dancairo, Signor Clampi; Remendado, Signor Rinaldini; Mercedes, Mlle. Lablache; Paquita, Mlle. Bauermeister; Michela, Mlle. Marie de Lido; and Carmen, Mlle. Minnie Hauk (her second appearance this season).

TUESDAY, March 29, FRA DIAVOLO. Zerlina, Mlle. Alma Fohstrom (her second appearance this season). Doors open half an hour before the Opera commences. Box office open daily 10 to 5. Popular prices.

DRURY LANE.

DRURY LANE.—AUGUSTUS HARRIS, Lessee and Manager.

EVERY EVENING, at 7.25; Morning Performance EVERY WEDNESDAY, and SATURDAY, at 1.25, THE FORTY THIEVES. 10-day at 1.25 and 7.25. 131st and 132nd Performances. LAST NIGHTS.

LYCEUM.

LYCEUM.—FAUST, EVERY EVENING, at 8 o'clock. Mephistopheles, Mr. HENRY IRVING; Margaret, Miss ELLEN TERRY. Box Office (Mr. J. Hurst) open 10 till 5. Seats booked by letter or telegram.—LYCEUM.

ADELPHI.

ADELPHI THEATRE.—Messrs. A. and S. GATTI, Sole Proprietors and Managers. THIS EVENING, at 8 o'clock, THE HARBOUR LIGHTS (435th time). Mr. William Terriss, Messrs. Beveridge, Garden, Maclean, Lyndal, Boleyn, Russell, Wentworth, Travers, &c.; Messdames Millward, England, C. Jacks, 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. Lestock, Norman Bent, Stewart Dawson, and W. J. Hill; Misses Vane Featherston, Blanche Horlock, Florence Haydon, Hettie Gray, and Fanny Brough, &c. Box-office open from 10 to 5. Business Manager, Mr. E. F. Bradley.

THE SNOWBALL.—GLOBE THEATRE.

VAUDEVILLE.

VAUDEVILLE.—THIS EVENING, at 8.30, SOPHIA (273rd time), by Robert Buchanan. Messrs. THOMAS THORNE, Carleton, Fred Thorne, Farquhar, Mellish, Grove, Wheatman, and LEONARD BOYNE; Messdames Larkin, Leclercq, Venne, Forsyth, and K. Rorke. At 7.45, NEARLY SEVERED. MATINEE every SATURDAY, at 2.30.

CRITERION.

CRITERION THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. CHARLES WYNDHAM. At 9, DAVID GARRICK. Mr. CHARLES WYNDHAM; Messrs. G. Giddens, W. Blakeley, and David James; Messdames Rose Saker, F. Paget, E. Miller, and Mary Moore. Preceded by, at 8, "WHO KILLED COCK ROBIN?" Doors open at 7.30. N.B.—Next MATINEE of DAVID GARRICK, SATURDAY, April 2nd, at 3 o'clock. Doors open 2.30.

AVENUE.

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

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 PERFORMANCE, SATURDAY, April 16th.

SAVOY.

SAVOY.—R. D'OYLY CARTE, Proprietor and Manager.—EVERY EVENING, at 8.30, the New and Original Supernatural Opera, in Two Acts, by W. S. Gilbert and Arthur Sullivan, entitled RUDDIGORE; OR, THE WITCH'S CURSE. Messrs. G. Grossmith, R. Barrington, R. Temple, R. Lewis, and D. Lely; Mesdames 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 12 P.M. Morning Performance of RUDDIGORE every SATURDAY, at 2.30.

ST. JAMES'S.

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

OPERA COMIQUE.

TO-NIGHT, at 8.15, MASKS AND FACES. Messrs. Forbes-Robertson, Fernandez, Lewis Waller, Tapping, Fawcett, S. Brough, Lawrence, Boyle, Curtis, Yorke, and Lionel Brough; Mesdames Julia Gwynne, Susan Vaughan, M. Johnstone, Mayer, and Miss Kate Vaughan. Preceded, at 7.45, by a MERRY MEETING.

OLYMPIC.

OLYMPIC THEATRE.—LAST NIGHTS OF MR. EDWARD TERRY. TO-NIGHT at 9, IN CHANCERY, preceded at 7.45 by TWO BLINDS, and at 8.15 by MY COUSIN. Mr. Terry in two pieces nightly. Doors open 7.30. Carriages at 10.45.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE. Mr. HORACE SEDGER, Lessee and Manager. THIS DAY, at 2.30 and 8.30, the successful Comedy-Opera, DOROTHY (168th time) By B. C. Stephenson and Alfred Cellier. Preceded, at 7.45, by A HAPPY DAY, by Richard Henry. Doors open 7.30. Matinee Every Saturday 2.30.

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 Titheradge, Annie Hughes, &c., will appear. Doors open 7.15. Commence at 7.45 with THE CLOCKMAKER'S HAT. Miss Hampton, &c. Box-office open from 10 to 5.

COURT.

COURT THEATRE.—DANDY DICK, by A. W. Pinero, at 8.30. Messrs. Arthur Cecil, H. Eversfield, F. Kerr, E. Maurice, W. H. Denny, W. Lugg, and John Clayton; Misses Norreys, Laura Linden, Marie Lewes, and Mrs. John Wood. At 8 o'clock, THE NETTLE. Box-office open 10 till 5. No fees. MATINEE of DANDY DICK TO-DAY and every SATURDAY, at 2.10.

GREAT PARIS HIPPODROME.

BOAT-RACE DAY.

SPECIAL ATTRACTIONS.

OLYMPIA, ADDISON-ROAD STATION, KENSINGTON.—LAST FIVE DAYS.—Unprecedented Success. Positively last performances March 31. TO-DAY, 2.30. TO-NIGHT, 8. Prices from 12 to 42 1/2. Children under Twelve Half-price to Stalls and Grand Circle, at doors only. 5,000 Seats at 12. Box Office (Mr. H. L. Boss) open 10 to 5, and at the principal Agents.

EASTER IN ROME.—COOK'S PERSONALLY CONDUCTED EXCURSION TO ITALY, providing for a week in Rome; visiting Paris, Turin, Bologna, Florence, Pisa, Genoa, &c., with extension to Naples, Pompeii, and Vesuvius; leaving London March 29 or 30. Fare £17. Programme for stamp. Also Cheap Return Tickets for 30 days, £1 12s.—THOS. COOK AND SON, Luigate-circus; 99, Gracechurch-street; 35, Piccadilly; 445, West Strand.

COLONIES.—Openings for PUPILS on Good Stock and Grain Farms, and larger Estates in Canada, the United States and Tasmania. Pamphlet free.—FOX, RATHBONE, and Co., 21, Finsbury-pavement, London.

NEXT MONDAY and three following days.—Diamond ornaments, pearl necklaces, chronometers, clocks and watches, silver, Sheffield, and electro plate, &c.

THROUGHOUT APRIL.—Sales of mounted jewels and loose stones, fine old silver, gold watches and chains; being selections from goldsmiths' stocks, goods by order of executors, and others.

DEBENHAM, STORR, and SONS will SELL by AUCTION, at their MART, King-street, Covent-garden, London, at Twelve, as above.

NOTE.—Jewellers' stocks and smaller consignments can be included on a short notice. On MONDAY, April 4, and many following days, Sales of Books, Paintings, 100 Pianofortes, Organs, Harps, Bronzes, Curiosities, &c.

NAVY CONTRACTS.

Tenders will be received until Twelve o'clock, noon, on the days named, for—

- Cabinet and Joiners' Work..
- B. Copper Articles.....
- B. Copper Nails.....
- S. Cutlery.....
- S. Files.....
- B.D. Fire Irons.....
- B. Glass Illuminators, Sheet and Plate Glass.....
- B. German Silver.....
- B. Gold Leaf.....
- B. Iron Plate Workers' Wares..
- B. Iron Hoops.....
- B.D. Iron or Steel Nails.....
- Lead Sheet and Pipe.....
- Manufactured Wood Goods.....
- B. Screws.....
- W. Tin and Japanned Wares..
- B. Weighing Machines.....
- Wire.....
- B.W. Wrought Iron Hinges.....
- Wooden Cases and Boxes.....
- B.W. Black Ironmongery.....
- B. Lamps and Lanterns.....

Forms of tender, containing Conditions of Contract and all particulars, may be obtained on personal application at this office, or by letter addressed "Director of Navy Contracts, Admiralty, Whitehall, S.W."

Patterns of all, except black ironmongery, copper articles, fire-irons, gold leaf, iron hoops, iron nails, lead, wire, wrought-iron hinges, may be seen at the Admiralty Pattern Rooms, 72, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's-inn, W.C., from 22nd March.

Forms of tender may also be obtained and patterns seen from 22nd March of the articles marked—"E." at the Admiralty Pattern Rooms, Livery-street, corner of Barwick-street, Birmingham, on application to Mr. F. T. Edwards; "D." at the Town Hall, Dudley, on application to the Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, Dudley;

"S." at the Cutlers' Hall, Sheffield, between 10 and 4 on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, on application to the Beadle; and

"W." at the Chamber of Commerce, Wolverhampton, on application to the Secretary.

JOHN COLLETT, Director of Navy Contracts. Contract Department, Admiralty, Whitehall. 19th March, 1887.

IMPORTANT PUBLIC SALE OF WINES and SPIRITS in Bond and Duty Paid on Wednesday, 30th March, 1887.

M. JOHN W. BASHFORD, Sworn Broker, 11, Hart-street, Mark-lane, has received instructions to SELL by PUBLIC AUCTION, principally without reserve to close sundry accounts, &c., at the London Commercial Sale Rooms, Mincing-lane on WEDNESDAY, 30th March, at one o'clock precisely, the following stocks, viz.:—23 pipes and butts 11 hhd. 26 qr. casks Port and Sherry, shipped by Sandeman, Cockburn, &c.; 4 pipes 2 hhd. 5 qr. casks Tarragona, &c.; 8 hhd. 139 qr. casks 3 cases Brandy, including Hennessy's 1875, Planat's 1875, 1877, and 1878, United Vineyard Proprietors' 1875, 1878, &c.; 2 butts 58 hhd. 56 qr. casks, 31 octaves Whisky, including G. Roe's Caol Ila, &c.; 7 pns. 4 hhd. 23 barrels 8 octaves Rum, Plummers, &c.; 89 cases Sherry, Claret, Burgundy, &c., all in bond. Also duty paid, 3 qr. casks Port and 1 qr. cask Peppermint; 1,403 doz. Port, Sherry, Burgundy, Claret, Champagne, &c., including 89 cases fine Old Landed Champagne, Clicquot's Dry Special 1880, landed 1884, Giesler's Extra Superior 1874, landed 1878, and Extra Brut 1880, &c. Catalogues and full particulars of the Auctioneer and Valuer, 11, Hart-street, Mark-lane, E.C.

PIANOS.—\$600 PIANOS, 350 AMERICAN ORGANS.—Immediate Sale.—In consequence of the retirement of the senior partner of the firm of T. D'Almaine and Co. (established 100 years), the WHOLE of the above STOCK is NOW OFFERED at an ENORMOUS REDUCTION in PRICE to effect a speedy sale. Easy terms arranged, and Ten Years' Warranty given with every instrument. PIANOS: 12 guineas, 15 guineas, 17 guineas, 20 guineas, &c. Organs: 5 guineas, 11 guineas, 15 guineas, 24 guineas, &c. T. D'ALMAINE & CO., 91, Finsbury-pavement, E.C.

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MURRAY'S MAGAZINE,

No. 4, APRIL, 1887.

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MAJOR LAWRENCE, F.L.S. (continued). By Hon. EMILY LAWLESS.
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OVER 500 other BOYS and GIRLS were placed out in

SERVICE last year in England alone, and are doing well.

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.

QUEEN VICTORIA'S JUBILEE.

MEMORIAL HOME for HOMELESS and DESTITUTE BOYS.

The Committee of the National Refuges for Homeless and Destitute Children have for several years been anxiously waiting to secure a spot where they could erect a New Home for Destitute Boys.

They have now secured a very desirable site for this new building on the Shaftesbury-avenue, the new thoroughfare leading from New Oxford-street to Piccadilly-circus.

This New Building will be

1. For the reception and training of about one hundred homeless and destitute boys.
2. A Home for 35 working boys.
3. A Club and Institute for old boys who have been trained in the Homes of the Society, where their moral, physical, and religious welfare may be watched over.
4. And offices where the work for the Society will be carried on.

It is proposed to erect this new building as a JUBILEE MEMORIAL

TO Her Most Gracious Majesty QUEEN VICTORIA, on behalf of

HOMELESS AND DESTITUTE BOYS.

Among the many memorials that will be set up as evidences of the gratitude of the people of this nation to Almighty God for the long and prosperous reign of our beloved Queen, and as evidencing the love and esteem in which her Majesty is held, the Committee venture to assert that there will be no memorial more practical than the building about to be erected for the temporal, moral, and religious welfare of the homeless and destitute boys of London.

It is estimated that this new building will cost about £10,000, and towards raising this sum a VERY EARNEST APPEAL IS MADE.

The Committee have every confidence that the appeal will be liberally responded to, and that the amount required will be forthcoming before the building is completed.

Early in the spring

THE FOUNDATION-STONE WILL BE LAID.

CONTRIBUTIONS are very EARNESTLY SOLICITED, and will be thankfully received by the President, the Earl of Jersey; the Treasurer, W. E. Hubbard, Esq., 4, St. Helen's-place, City; the London and Westminster Bank, 214, High Holborn; and by the Secretary,

WILLIAM WILLIAMS.
Boys' Refuge, 25, Great Queen-street, Holborn, W.C.

ROYAL HOSPITAL for DISEASES

of the CHEST, City-road, London.

Patron—The QUEEN.

SUBSCRIPTIONS and DONATIONS are very much NEEDED, both for the Building Fund, and also for the current expenses of the Hospital.

Bankers—Messrs. Glyn, Mills, and Co., 67, Lombard-street.

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JOHN J. AUSTIN, Secretary.

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ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS, donations, and legacies are earnestly SOLICITED. The Hospital is freely open day and night to every kind of disease or accident.

S. M. QUENNEL, Secretary.

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THE ST. JAMES'S GAZETTE.

SATURDAY, MARCH 26, 1887.

HALF A CENTURY OF CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT.

THE acclamations with which two great kindred nations have greeted or are greeting an epoch in the advanced years of their respective Sovereigns remind us that, while the reign of these two Sovereigns has been in many ways extremely remarkable, it has in either case been coextensive with a period of the highest importance in the history of Constitutional Government. It is well worth our while to consider the conclusions to which this history points.

WILLIAM, King of Prussia, has, in our opinion, five times saved his country, and with it he has saved Constitutional Government; and the result of his wielding the sceptre is, that he has elevated his fatherland to a pitch of greatness undreamt of before the half-century began. When he was first heard of by Englishmen as PRINCE of Prussia, he seems to have been looked upon much as the Duke of CUMBERLAND in the preceding generation had been looked upon in England, as what nowadays would be called a bigoted reactionary. The utmost his enemies would allow was that he was an excellent officer. He had no love for the strange Constitution which his accomplished but deplorably vacillating brother was persuaded to set up; and he was an open opponent of the much wilder political institutions which the mob had forced on the KING after the French Revolution of 1848. By his steady condemnation of them, his undisguised wish that they should be overthrown by force, he greatly contributed to their destruction; and then for the first time, we believe, he saved parliamentary government and saved his country, which the Constitution would have rapidly brought to ruin. For a short time after he succeeded to his brother's authority, first as Regent and then as King, he had many foreign admirers as a mild constitutional Sovereign. But as soon as he found that his Parliament wished to interfere with the army he broke with it; and for long years he conducted, with HERR VON BISMARCK at his right hand, a struggle, now a good deal forgotten, which caused superior people in England and other countries to sigh over him as an obstinate despot. But the long-impending war with Austria for ascendancy in Germany broke out, and at the close of the "one man's war" it was found that there had arisen a new Germany. The KING, his wise and stern Minister, and the now penitent Parliament, were reconciled, and constitutional government, which had been all but ruined by the discredit of the parliamentary leaders, took a new lease of life. After the victorious war with France, parliamentary institutions seemed to be firmly implanted in Germany through the participation of all classes in the heroic effort; but the German Parliament, in spite of all lessons, again attempted to get the army into its hands; and it was only the other day that the EMPEROR and KING, by a bold appeal to the whole nation, succeeded in retaining his military authority, and for the last time saved German constitutional government from discredit, and not improbably from destruction.

All these facts are easily grouped together. The EMPEROR has been throughout his reign a constitutional ruler, and has never departed from the duties which his office imposed on him. But he has understood constitutional government in one particular way. He has been determined not to abandon his own special position in the constitutional system, and from one end of the period before us to the other he has been every inch a King; and through this very determination Germany has become the first country in Europe, and is still constitutionally governed.

We have now to turn to the constitutional system under the headship of Queen VICTORIA. Her Majesty has been frequently praised for her performance of her duties in a thoroughly constitutional spirit, and her people have been congratulated on the happy accident of a female reign. In truth, the reign has been a singularly exact contrast to the reign of the German EMPEROR. We do not say that Queen VICTORIA has altogether abstained from any active part in government. The truths in these matters do not in our day come out till long after the facts; and from books recently published it has become clear that in the early portion of the reign, and especially during the life of the Prince CONSORT, royal authority was still an important factor in English politics. But yet, on the whole, what has been the result of conscientiously governing in a "constitutional" spirit? It has surely become plain that the honest but not particularly wise WILLIAM IV. was the last real British King. He, at all events, made himself felt once or twice with considerable effect. But the present reign, covering a period in many ways most remarkable, will assuredly end with the serious diminution or entire disappearance of the very element

in a constitutional system which the German EMPEROR has done so much to preserve. For a long time it seemed as if monarchy in England was destined to become nothing more than a method of decorating democracy. The Ministers of the Crown, several of whom boasted that they owed their popularity and power to having voted against proposals for portioning the QUEEN'S children, were in reality raised to the Cabinet by the party wire-pullers and thenceforward paraded about in gold-laden coats which indicated that, before all other men, they had the royal ear. This course of evolution has, however, been roughly interrupted by a prodigious blunder of the most powerful Minister the QUEEN ever had. WILLIAM of Prussia chose BISMARCK to be his adviser, and the two together made Germany. Queen VICTORIA had Mr. GLADSTONE forced upon her, and he has led her close to the brink of a yawning chasm in the history of the empire. In spite of all the wealth and splendour which surround us, in spite of the great reaction which the madness of one man has provoked, nobody can be quite sure that the reign will not end with the Gauls in the Capitol, admitted to it by the geese.

THE OUTCOME OF THIS WEEK'S DEBATE.

Of course the Opposition did not imagine for a moment that the amendment which Mr. Morley was put up to move on Tuesday evening would be carried. But it was not a purposeless amendment either. In the first place it was obstructive. At the worst it would raise a long debate, and that would improve the Parnellite chances of throwing the second reading of Mr. Balfour's Bill over till after the Easter holidays. But it might also have been hoped that the discussion would supply an opportunity for a display of glamorous rhetoric, useful in keeping up the hearts of the Gladstonians in the constituencies. And of course it did furnish the occasion; but how was it employed and what came of it? All the English Parnellites of importance spoke, and at the end of the debate every one of them is aware that he did not make a success of it at all. Which of them made the greatest failure, which of them is most disappointed with the result of his own exertions, it is hard to say. It is evident that they all meant to make great speeches, but from Mr. Gladstone of course the most was expected. But when all's done even he, the glamorous one, must feel that he stands rather lower in the estimation of all honest and sensible men than he did at the beginning of the week; while he has failed to kindle up, even by the faintest flicker, "the enthusiasm of the masses." For the masses are perfectly well aware of what is going on in Ireland, and they are not so much demoralized by anybody's eloquence as to see in murder a natural and tolerable expedient for obtaining a reduction of rent. To be sure, there is not so much murder in Ireland as there used to be, and so far the Parnellite argufiers are right. But there is more than enough; and when Mr. Gladstone contends that the Plan of Campaign is an innocent means of relieving the Irish farmers from their obligations to their landlords, the masses think of Byers's case; they think of the Mill-street outrages; of the boycotting which extends to milk for sick children and coffins for murdered men; and if, as Mr. Gladstone says, "the character, purpose, and object of crime in Ireland is now to obtain certain reductions in rent," the general opinion is that it goes much too far, and should be suffered no longer. The right honourable gentleman should have reflected that the remains of his popularity rest upon a lingering belief that he is a man of the most delicate morality; and even his eloquence, even his ingenuity, cannot persuade any honest or reasonable being that crime ought not to be punished if it is perpetrated with a view to getting your rent lowered. Yet this was the argument of the aged moralist, just as it was of the youthful philosopher who opened the discussion. Neither of them has any reason to congratulate himself on the effect of their very prosy and yet more hollow orations. Nobody thinks the better of them: impossible but that most men should think worse. Even if the speeches of the English Parnellites had passed without a word of reply, their laborious feebleness and their gross immorality would have condemned them. But they did not pass unanswered; and since the gentle reader in town and country has Mr. Chamberlain's speech, and Sir Henry James's, and Mr. Goschen's to turn to after perusing the discourses of Mr. Parnell's confederates, we need not fear that the debate on Mr. Morley's amendment has done much to further the cause of the Irish conspiracy. Damage has been done, no doubt; but it falls upon that conspiracy itself, and more especially upon the English supporters of it. It was difficult, perhaps, for Sir William Harcourt to injure his own particular reputation any further; but, somehow, he succeeded in doing so last night, and indeed there seems to be no limit to his ingenuity in this direction. On the whole, therefore, we find no reason to regret what in some quarters is called the waste of another week. The week has not been wasted. It has been usefully employed by the English allies of the Irish conspiracy in proving to demonstration that their political morality is on a level with their political judgment; and the history of the last six years, and the part they have played in it, show that nothing can be much more contemptible than that.

NOTES.

Sir William Harcourt recently resigned his legal chair at Cambridge. It was about time he did. The views which "Historicus"—under the stimulus of "Parnellite juice"—has lately developed are not exactly those of a professor of jurisprudence. He says that it is the duty of a Government to enforce a law—"if it is good and just." If it is not good and just, it is the first duty of Government to amend it, and meanwhile, to avoid enforcing it. We fancy that Sir William's late pupils in the Cambridge Law Tripos learn that as long as a law remains unrepealed the Constitution gives the Executive no choice but to make it operative. If they think it bad they can get it modified or annulled by the Legislature. But Sir William Harcourt believes that a man who doesn't agree with a judicial decree may rebel against it; and that Government, before vindicating the authority of the law, must satisfy itself that his opinion is unreasonable. Quite a new idea.

Lord Salisbury's Tithe Bill seems a useful measure. It is as well that the landowner should pay the tithe rent-charge in name, as he generally does in reality. The change will remove an onerous and unpopular duty from the clergy, and save them from the disagreeable necessity of forcing their parishioners to pay their debts by the process of distraint. The Bill will satisfy most clergymen, many landowners, and some farmers. But Lord Salisbury is much mistaken if he imagines that it will content the Anti-Tithe agitators in poor little Wales. What these gentry want is, in the first place to injure the clergy of the Church of England, and in the second to get off the payment of the rent-charge. The tithe is to be reduced 5 per cent. by the Bill; but that will not be enough for people who want to divert it from the parson's pocket entirely and to put it into their own.

The French Grand Old Man is a very hale and vigorous veteran; but he is mortal, like the rest of us. It is only charitable to suppose that M. de Lesseps's faculties are not all that they once were. He is understood to have a good memory; but we are afraid that it is failing. This, at least, is the most favourable explanation of his remarkable mistake about Lord Alcester and the Suez Canal in August, 1882. M. de Lesseps said that the British Admiral paid the Suez Canal Company £100,000 as compensation for the occupation of Ismailia. Lord Alcester gives a point blank denial to the statement, and produces witnesses who prove beyond dispute that no such payment was ever made. *Le Grand Français* has always had his full share of the imaginative French temperament; and now that he is getting old his imagination appears to be growing inconveniently vivid.

The *Tablet* publishes what it calls an authoritative statement of the view taken by the majority of the Irish people on the case of Father Kelleher. The writer says that Protestants are unable to comprehend the bonds which knit together the Irish peasant and his priest. It is not merely in the confessional that the peasantry disclose their secrets to their spiritual guides. They do it at all times; and they look upon all their communications as confidential. Father Kelleher "knew well that the minds of his people would not follow the fine distinction which was confusedly passing through the legal brain." The distinction is not at all subtle, and there can be no confusion about it in any brain, legal or otherwise. If every communication made to a priest by anybody at any time is privileged, then there is no act of rebellion, no organized fraud, no criminal conspiracy, that could not be committed with impunity. All that would be necessary would be to take the priests into the conspiracy; which in Ireland is being done.

Sir Balthazar Walter (or is it Walter Balthazar?) Foster was expected to secure the seat left vacant by the death of Mr. Thomas Watson. Ilkeston is a Gladstonian division, and the Conservatives were not at all sanguine of success in the contest from the beginning. Still, they had hoped to reduce the Home Rule majority somewhat. It is a disappointment to find that the opposite result has happened. The Conservatives, it is true, poll a heavier vote than in 1886; but the Gladstonians record a still larger increase. There is nothing very discouraging about the election; but it shows that the Anti-Secessionist party in the constituencies must not take things too easily. The Home Rulers are hard at work, agitating, organizing, and lecturing. The Unionists must not neglect to guard the victory won last year.

Sir Auckland Colvin's Indian Budget statement can hardly be described as a cheerful one. Under the Indian system of accounts the Finance Minister has to deal with the figures of three distinct financial years, proceeding from the certainty of a docketed account to the uncertainty of an estimated income and expenditure. Thus, the "regular accounts" of 1885-86 show a deficit of £2,801,726; while the "revised estimates" of 1886-87, and the "Budget estimates" of 1887-88, show no deficit, only because the one which would have otherwise appeared has been met by the transfer to loan account of charges debitable to revenue under the head of famine insurance. As regards the two latter years, the net increase in the expen-

diture over the revenue is £1,048,900 and £1,231,300 respectively; virtually making a deficit for the three years of £5,000,000. It will be seen from the *précis* telegraphed from Calcutta that the account for "loss by exchange" has exceeded that of the previous year by £474,000. This has been the serious feature in the year's finance, to which we drew attention in August last; but the opium revenue, although no mention is made of it in the statement before us, is known to be worse than the estimate for the year by some £200,000. We fear that it is as true now as when Macaulay said it, that India is a poorer country than countries in Europe which are reckoned poor—than Ireland, for example, or Portugal; but many a sound business, capable of indefinite extension, suffers from a lack of capital. And India, both in respect of its capabilities and its finances, is essentially sound.

Here is an elegant extract from the *New York Catholic Herald*, given by Mr. Philip Bagenal to-day:—"One evicting landlord killed in Ireland, or wherever he may be found, would do more to settle the Irish land question than all the speeches in and out of Parliament which could be delivered from this to doomsday." Here is another:—"No sentimental bosh should be allowed to tie our hands. The torch, the knife, and dynamite are weapons which are at the disposal even of an unarmed and poverty-stricken nation like ours." There is some more like it. The writer is Mr. Frank Byrne, late secretary to the Irish Parliamentary party, who found it necessary to quit England after the Phoenix Park murders, and has since been the honoured associate of Mr. Parnell's American paymasters.

Considering the exceeding badness of the weather, the inter-university sports were well attended. The racing was fairly interesting, though the "times" were not sensational. This, however, was due to the state of the ground, and to the fact that the runners were seriously impeded by the prevailing head-wind. Under the circumstances 53 2-5 sec. for the Quarter Mile was very fair, and 4 min. 25 2-5 sec. for the Mile was extraordinary. Of course the mile has been done in far less time than that (the amateur "record" is a fraction over 4 min. 18 sec.); but the performance was a wonderfully good one considering the unfavourable conditions. There was never any doubt that Cambridge would win the majority of the "events;" but the fine performance of their champion in the Mile and their victory in the Three Miles may partly console the Dark Blues.

Our boy-soldiers—we are not referring to the privates of the line regiments—become very active about this season of the year. In a few weeks all the crack shots of the public schools will be hard at work practising for the competition at Wimbledon, and laying in a stock of coolness, nerve, and steadiness, which will be useful to them through life. A few years ago the schoolboy volunteer corps used to be content with developing a few good marksmen. But they have got far beyond that now, and can take their part in a field-day rather more creditably than most battalions of the auxiliary army. Yesterday detachments from Eton, Marlborough, Winchester, Clifton, and other great schools were indulged with a sham fight at Aldershot, in company with regular cavalry, artillery, and infantry. The boys marched well and manœuvred well, and doubtless would have shot well, too, if there had been loaded cartridges in their rifles and these had not happened to jam. The public school authorities deserve credit for the encouragement they have given to this useful military movement.

Professor Tyndall is going to resign the Chair of Natural Philosophy at the Royal Institution. Like his friend Professor Huxley, Mr. Tyndall is beginning to feel the effects of advancing age and years of hard and serious work. But we may hope that the great physicist, as well as the great biologist, has still a long period of activity before him. Perhaps both, now that they are relieved from some of their graver duties, will find time to give the world some more of those "popular" scientific treatises by which they are known to the great majority of readers. Both Huxley and Tyndall have the distinction—shared, in part, by Faraday and Darwin—of being equally honoured by the severest students of scientific research and by the amateurs for whom science is nothing unless it is made easy. But then both *savants* have the advantage of uniting to their learning and their scientific genius a most lucid and literary style. The differential calculus would become pleasant reading if explained in the manner of "Lay Sermons" or the famous "Belfast Address." We hope, too, that Professor Tyndall will not cease altogether from letting the public hear his views on current politics. The secession from Neo-Liberalism of this clear thinker, who has been all his life a Liberal, is one of the services for which the party has to thank its present chief.

It is sad to think that British trade is falling off because British manufactures are too good. This is the opinion of our Vice-Consul in San Domingo, who, like many other of our agents abroad, has to report the discouraging fact that foreign goods in foreign bottoms are driving our own merchants and carriers from the market. But this Vice-Consul tells us that the cause is not in the inferiority of our wares or the deficient capabilities of our commercial agents. He says that the British travellers

he has happened to meet are quite up to their foreign rivals in linguistic attainments. We have heard so much of the want of education of our men of business that this is rather reassuring. According to the Vice-Consul the cause of our decadence is different. "When British manufacturers realize the fact that they must produce cheap and tawdry goods to suit the taste and pockets of their far-off customers, then will they derive larger profits, and their agents will be able not only to compete with but to surpass their German and French rivals." There are markets and markets; and in some, no doubt, cheapness and tawdriness are essential. But from all we have heard we fancy the British exporter does not often go wrong in giving too good value to his customers for their money.

Englishmen do not read Irish local papers. If they did they would find the account of tenant-right sales interesting. We have given some figures of such sales occasionally, which show that agriculture in some parts of Ireland is not a bad trade—for the tenant. We heard yesterday of the farmer on the Lansdowne estate with his race-horses and conservatories who is trying to rob his landlord by joining the Plan of Campaign swindle. All farms are not as valuable as Raheenahone. But there are a large number which are in a very satisfactory condition. Thus on the Egmont Estate at Buttevant the other day the tenant's interest in a farm held for thirty-one years at £140 a year, was sold by public auction ("there being no interference by the National League," says the report in a matter-of-course way) for £1,025. Similar cases are of constant occurrence in various districts of Ireland.

Of course, nobody denies that there has been a fall in the prices of some kinds of agricultural produce lately. But the fall is not confined to Ireland. It is felt as severely by many English agriculturists and traders; who nevertheless continue to pay their debts. Perhaps it would be true to say that the depression is felt much more severely in England; since some English land is rented more highly in proportion to its produce than Irish. In Downes' (Liverpool) *Quarterly Circular* we have a statement of the comparative rentals in English and Irish dairy districts, from which it appears that in England the average is from £7 10s. to £7 15s. per milch cow, in Wales £5 15s., and in Ireland £3 to £3 15s. "It is safe to affirm," adds the *Circular*, "that there is no farmer in Great Britain—perhaps in Europe—possessing equal facilities for the distribution of produce by land and water more easily rented than the average Irish farmer." Englishmen hear of a few tenants starving on land too poor or too much subdivided to support them, and jump to the conclusion that these fairly represent the Irish farming class.

CORRESPONDENCE.

MR. FITZPLUSH ON THE POOR RATE.

To the EDITOR ST. JAMES GAZETTE.

SIR,—I feel sure it will be a satisfaxun to Mr. Goshing to learn that the istorick name of Fitzplush is inrolled amongst his cawjal suppwaters. In reseavin the deputashun on agrikultural depresshun he shewed hisself a man of bisness and a man of curidge. He doan't waste his vallable time discussin protexon since (rite or wrong) he knows he can't have it. He doan't delite his awjance with the abolishun of the clergy or the embarrassin allotmint. But he sez outright, "I propoge to attend to my own bisness, and my bisness is—taxation."

Permit me, Sir, to illusterate my meanin by an annygoat. Durin a wisit in Essex, I was the specktatur of a most ridiklus insident. A small farmer was undergoin the process of distrainin for poor-rates. The bailiffs was cartin away his contempble old ouseold gods. To see the childern blubberin over their wretchid broken toys, and the ard-feachured muther biddin farewell to the kitching clock, afforded me the most xquisite amusemint. When the cart was leavin, the farmer (a pore-spirited crechur quite unlike those brave Irish boys) turns to the bailiffs quite frendly and remarks 'Well now we'll go and get sum of our own money back' as he trudges orf to the workus.

At this momint I obsuvved, canterin on an ired ack over one of this very farmer's fields that well-knoan young sprig of fashing, M. Cedula Mexicanas. He was in xlent ealth and spirits, and, addressin me quite affable, entered into the joak so artily that it suggested to me suttin inquiries as to his own contribushons to the poor-rates and other xpences of the country he ad been good enough to adopt. Being of forin xtraxon, he occupies a neat sweet of 2 apartmints in a street leadin out of Picadilly. He enjoys his free brekfast table at the Hypotecarias Club, and adjurns about newn to a street neer the Stock Exchange, where with a bettin-book, which constitoots his whole offishul establishment, he transax a very comfbbble little bisness in forin bonds. These secoorities a benevolint Government as been considerate enuf to xemp from stamp dooties. His relaxashun is the inexpensiv gaim of dominoes. Bein of a retirin and modest disposishun, he is ushally on the Continong in the inkum tax return season. Speakin genrally, I am conwinced that that deservin young man lays his ead on the pillar every Saturday night with the conshusness of a well spent inkum, not avin devoted a single farden to any conseavable objick excep hisself.

Now, Sir, ow does the Rt. Hon. J. T. Fitzplush, Chancellor of the Xchecker, propoge to deal with these ere sucumstances? In the fust place, he propoges to refawm away all the xistin masheenary of westrymen, surveyors, beadles, slissitors, clerks, collectors, collectors' assistants, & cetera & cetera, with due respeck in corse to the wested interests of the westrymens relations, reservin a few merely ornamintal objicks such as mares and aldermen. Then he

substitoots a genral system for the ole country, regulatin the expenditoor on roads, lightin, pore relief, schoolin, and the other subjicks of local rates.

Then the Rt. hon. gent. takes the sprig abuv referred to, and subjicks him to a most compleat process of taxashun. He taxes his inkum, and if that is not enuf, he taxes his capitte. He taxes his glass I, his mustashes (least ways his pommade ongroise), his dimond studs, his spats, his patint leathers, his bettin-book, and every transaxun in it. And when the wictim has shuffled orf his mortal coil he taxes the forin bonds in his residwary account, to an xtent which makes him riggle in his grave!

And that keeps the farmer out of the workus.—I am, Sir, yours obejunt,
March 23.

J. T. FITZPLUSH.

THE LOBBY GHOST.

(BY AN EX-M.P.)

"I HAVE been there, and still would go." These lines, which in no profane spirit I take from a hymn very familiar to me in my childhood, are on my lips, and in my heart by day and by night. For not long since I was a member of Parliament; I am so no longer; and yet do I, *must* I, haunt the place. Even in the bitterness of my defeat (Home Rule question) I had this consolation. I remembered the Speaker's order about admitting ex-members into the lobby; an order which practically gives you the run of the place. That is to say, I remembered that I could, if I liked, have the run of the place. But at first I formed a resolution that I would never go near the House. I owed it to my dignity, I argued, to avoid an institution from which (not to put too fine a point upon it) I had been ejected. And so for some days after the opening of the session I contented myself with reading the debates in the *Times*, and spent my evenings at home. Cosy I called them at first; but ah! I soon became conscious that a void had been created in my life that a book by the fireside could never fill. I was not now receiving the parliamentary papers! They used to come so regularly for my inspection, and now they were quite cut off. That, however, was simply a question of a £20 cheque. I can hardly describe my pleasure when, a few mornings after, my sight was greeted by the familiar bundle of "Par. Pro." Having these things coming every morning was almost like being a member. But, even while my satisfaction was still new, a poison in me was beginning to work. Something whispered into my ear that it was a pity to make no use of my assiduous reading—that I might do a world of good by an occasional conversation with members upon subjects they had not time to master; and that, after all, I should best consult my dignity by *not* avoiding the House like one conscious of deserved disgrace. "Your exclusion for the present," said the tempter, "is merely an incident in your career. Forget it! Think only of the future, of the long years of public service which your country expects from your unquestioned integrity and your undoubted ability. As for your defeat—face it out like a man. Was Goschen dismayed when he lost Liverpool? Or Gladstone when Greenwich refused him? Not at all. Go down to the lobby, and there take such part as you can in the work of legislation. You will not be able to speak and vote, but think of the influence you may wield over those who can!"

There was much truth in this. It was due to my position and to my capacity for affairs that I should not remain altogether absent and silent. So—to be brief—I went down to the lobby. The policemen touched their helmets to me as usual, and I was well recognized and received on every hand. Certainly one person, who was always somewhat too familiar, *did* remind me that I was an "outsider" before I had been in the place five minutes; but from him I escaped by moving off in the direction of the post-office, remarking that "I must get my letters." I did not at the moment catch the meaning of the look that came over the fellow's face; but of course I understood afterwards. "Any letters for me?" I asked the clerk. "No, sir," was the answer; "everything that came after last session has been sent on to your private address, and nothing has come this session." Of course—I was no longer a member. However, the lobby itself was cheerful enough. I met many men I knew—members, of course—and we gossiped about the various questions I had been studying in the "papers." Astonishing how little most of them really knew about the subjects they were going to vote upon! I assure you that not one in ten had looked at anything except the division-lists, to see that his name was spelled right, and the "orders" for that evening. Much to my annoyance, these conversations were constantly interrupted. Sometimes it would be a messenger with the card of a constituent waiting in the outer lobby; sometimes a pesky newspaper-man, wanting to ask a question; sometimes another member whom I *didn't* know: the invariable result being to bring the conversation to an abrupt end and leave me stranded. No messenger came with cards for me; no lobby-haunter came to me for information; no member had any need of my assistance. There is not even a place in the lobby where one can sit down; and no provision whatever is made for ex-members who desire to write, smoke, or take a little light refreshment. They would not even serve me with a glass of sherry at the little bar in the corner. The man in charge pointed to the card inscribed "Members only," and there was nothing for it but to turn away without a word.

Suddenly the bell rang, and shouts of "Vision! Vision!" arose on all hands. Members came hurrying in from library, dining-room, smoking-room, committee-rooms, ladies' gallery; and bitterly I felt that the bell rang no more for me than for the birds on the roof. Still I stood, alone and rooted to the floor, when up comes a policeman with a "Beg pardon, sir; strangers must withdraw." "But I am no stranger; I am the ex-member for Puddleton." "Yessir; *ex*-member, sir; very sorry, sir," rejoined the constable, with a truly painful civility; and, in short, I was turned out into the corridor!

It was half-past two A.M. when I got home. My wife wished to know where I had been till that late hour. I thought she might have known. However, I replied, "House;" whereupon she burst into tears. She said "it was too much;" that she was not such a child as to be unaware that nobody expected ex-members to go to the House of Commons; that it was bad enough when I

was a member, because then there was no denying that I *might* have been there, especially if I could point to my name in the division-list next day; but that now—now—to come home at that time in the morning with the old excuse—oh, it was horrible!

This was very bad, but did it enable me to resist the temptation? Not at all. In short, I am the slave of a terrible fascination. I cannot stay away. I have not the slightest reason for going. But go I do, generally about three in the afternoon, just as if I had a seat to secure in the House; and there I stay till the door-keepers shout "Who goes home?" I have my meals at the public bar outside. The bar-tender takes care of my overcoat. Day by day do I more and more neglect my business: this I feel, and also feel that a shadow is settling over what was once a happy home. Drink is a curse—yes; but I doubt whether it is so great a curse as being an ex-member of Parliament. To the many golden precepts for youth—not to drink, not to gamble, not to get into bad company, and so on—let me add another: Never become a member of Parliament, unless you can secure a seat from which nothing short of a revolution, an insurrection, can eject you.

SOME CURIOSITIES OF LONGEVITY.

THE celebration of the Kaiser's ninetieth birthday has led to the publication of the fact that there are now living in Prussia no fewer than 5,000 persons over ninety years of age, 600 of whom are centenarians. Of the latter class we naturally hear more than of their younger brethren in years. The smaller group are invested with a sense of completion wanting to those who have not reached the crowning distinction of the hundred. Since the attainment of his "second majority" by M. Chevreul, on the 31st of August last—on which day a list of centenarians appeared in the *St. James's Gazette*—many striking instances of longevity have been made public in this country. They comprise some thirty centenarians. But there are not wanting many notable examples of what may be called the "junior division," a proportion of whom may be expected to graduate in due course. Three persons have attained their 99th year, and three others have reached, without having completed, their 100th. Among the latter stands Mrs. Whiteley, of Hull, who has been the mother of twenty-four children.

Posen, Silesia, and East Prussia are said to yield the largest number of aged people of the Teutonic race. In proportion to its population, Wales, perhaps, most largely contributes to our own returns. But in England longevity—if it be at all really distributable—would seem to pertain to classes of individuals rather than to race or locality. The great age attained by Quakers has often been noticed; but their "bill of mortality" for 1886 is a remarkable one even for them. Of the 229 "Friends" who died last year in Great Britain and Ireland, 51 were between 60 and 70 years of age; 74 were between 70 and 80; 69 were between 80 and 90; and 10 were between 90 and 100 years. Among them were 17 recipients of income from the Friends' Provident Institution whose average of age was 75 years. The longevity of annuitants is, indeed, proverbial.

Paupers are generally well represented among the death-lists of aged persons. From a report lately made to the Southwark District Board of Works, it appears that during the four weeks ended on the 16th inst., 12 persons died in the Christchurch Workhouse at the following ages:—68, 69, 71, 73, 76 (2), 79, 80 (2), 82, and 85 (2) years. Of 13 inmates of the same establishment who died in December last, all were over 60; and three had severally attained the ages of 77, 82, and 84 years. Whatever their comparative value, these figures are in themselves remarkable. Among the "out-patients" of the unions are sure to be some very "tough" examples, who show on how little of this world's goods a hale old age may be reached. Last autumn a labourer in his 92nd year, living at Long Sutton, in Lincolnshire, broke his thigh for the sixth time. His previous fractures had been of one thigh five times; his last misadventure being with the leg which had hitherto escaped. This veteran had also dislocated his elbow twice and his collar-bone once. The guardians considerably granted him the assistance of a nurse; and it is to be hoped that John Walker, of Long Sutton, received benefit at her hands.

Instances of extreme longevity in the United States are common; but few are more noteworthy than the statistics, lately published in Philadelphia, of the persons above 90 years old who died in that city during 1886. They include thirty-four deaths at 90 years of age; twenty-three at 91; twenty-two at 92; thirteen at 93; nine at 94; thirteen at 95; twelve at 96; eight at 97; three at 98; five at 99; five at 100; one at 101; one at 102; two at 104; and one at 109 years. A feature of this list is the great preponderance of women—a fact which seems universally to obtain in all similar returns.

By the limit assigned to these notes, the name of Mrs. Elizabeth Innes—who died last month at Lybster, Caithness-shire, at the age of 107 years—should be excluded; but she is mentioned by reason of the rare longevity enjoyed by several members of her family. The mother of Mrs. Innes lived to the age of 99; and of four sisters, one also died at 99, and the other three were all over 90. A brother died at the age of 89. Many readers will be pleased to hear that Mary Howitt—in excellent health—celebrated her 89th birthday on the 12th inst.

Much has been written, not always profitably, about longevity. The following points are taken from an ideal sketch of a man "destined to long life," by the German physician Hufeland. "He is of the middle size, and somewhat thickly set. His complexion is not too florid, his head not too big; his shoulders are round rather than flat; his neck is not too long. His hands are large; his feet rather thick than long; his legs firm and round. He has a broad and arched chest, and the faculty of retaining his breath for a long time." As to his habits—"The joys of the table are to him of importance; they tune his mind to serenity." "He eats slowly, and has not too much thirst." "If he ever gives way to anger, he experiences no more than a useful glow of warmth. He is fond of employment, and of calm meditation and agreeable speculation. He is an optimist; a friend to nature and domestic felicity; has no desire for riches or honour and banishes all thought of to-morrow."

SPORT IN AUSTRALIA.

ENGLISHMEN all the world over are noted for their devotion to outdoor sports, colonials no less than home-dwellers. Indeed, if either, it is colonials who are the keener in their enthusiasm for such pastimes as racing, shooting, cricket, and boating. But however that be, it is certain that every branch of sport and athletics flourishes and prospers under the sunnier skies of Australia and New Zealand. It is natural enough that horse-racing should be of great importance in countries where horse-riding is so essential and so common. The towns are small, at most as large as Bristol, and country "paddocks" are never more than a couple of miles' canter from the busiest centre of population. Moreover, the country (*pace* Mr. Froude) is certainly more to the average colonial than the town. He drifts naturally into the country. He may, it is true, drift just as naturally into the town; but, if he does so, it is usually against his will, and only because circumstances force him into such a course. The true colonial, no less than the "new chum," hastens up country on his earliest opportunity, and desires nothing better than to rusticate among his native hills and forests. Riding is therefore a pretty general accomplishment, though not so universal as some travellers would have us believe. And with riding, and the consequent love of horses, goes a taste for horse-racing. The number of racing events in one small province of New Zealand would probably seem incredible even to English ears. Every little "township"—the village of the colonies—has its separate races. It is not as if towns like Dorking or Guildford or Salisbury should have their annual races, but villages like Shere or Hatfield or Sutton. I have often observed, hard by the mere handful of houses constituting a township, a race-course set off and appointed for the annual gala-day of the little settlement—a race-course somewhat rustic and crude, certainly, yet distinctly a race-course, with grand stand and paddock to boot.

For their original stock colonial breeders were, of course, indebted to English sires and English dams; but they may be said long since to have developed a native breed, and to be now independent of exportations from home. Nor is it only one class or a few classes which find interest in horses and horse-racing; it is almost every class. On race-days there is usually a public holiday or half-holiday; and the inhabitants of Melbourne, Sydney, Adelaide, Christchurch, or wherever it be, flock out in thousands, till the towns are absolutely empty. Melbourne is a city of over 300,000 people. The popularity of the sport may be gauged by the fact that, according to trustworthy estimate, there are annually over 100,000 people present on the Flemington race-course to witness the contest for the Melbourne Cup. It is as if the Derby should have a million and a half of spectators.

But racing, though the chief, is not the only amusement of the colonial. He courses also. Years ago the acclimatization societies naturalized rabbits and hares in the colonies; and though from the squatter's point of view such a proceeding was most ill-advised, the lover of coursing cannot but be grateful for the experiment. Coursing, however, is neither so popular nor so "aristocratic" as racing, and, though it flourishes, especially among the Irish section of the community, it cannot be said to make very great way. Hunting, on the other hand, is extremely popular. All classes do not hunt, as they race; and there are many districts where hunting is precluded either from want of quarry or from the trackless nature of the forests. Still, it is eagerly pursued where it can be: so much so that even when it cannot be obtained drag-hunts are organized by the enthusiasts. There is great variety, too, to be had. In Tasmania a carted stag is hunted; in Australia kangaroos as well as hares. But New Zealand is perhaps the home of hare-hunting. Some parts, especially in the North Island, are too wooded and rough to admit of following the hounds; but in Otago and Canterbury is the paradise of the hunter. The open plains of the latter province afford a capital run; while ditches and hedges—not all wire, happily—abound for the enterprising and the venturesome. Fox-hunting, needless to say, is unknown in the colonies, for there are no foxes to hunt. In New Zealand there is also pig-hunting, generally accomplished by the aid of dog and knife. Pigs may also be shot; but the sportsmanlike mode of hunting him is otherwise.

Other animals, however, are more permissible for the sportsman's gun. There is shooting enough and to spare, of all kinds and varieties. The Australian organizes shooting parties, and at certain seasons invades the domain of the kangaroo. Or he chases the emu in the plains; or shoots wombats, opossums, tiger-cats, Tasmanian devils, as well as the orthodox ducks, swans, etc. The New Zealander has to content himself with tamer sport. Unhappily, or happily, he has no indigenous quadrupeds, and so must do the best he can with the few imported animals and the feathered creation. The former comprise hares, rabbits, and pigs; the latter are numerous enough if not very various, including all manner of water-fowl, paradise-ducks, swamp-hens, and pheasants. Of the excitement of deer-stalking, of the pleasures of otter-hunting, of the mysteries of grouse-shooting or partridge-shooting, the colonial is absolutely ignorant; though probably he has other excitements, pleasures, and mysteries, by way of compensation.

The gentle craft is, I am inclined to think, less cultivated than any other branch of sport in Australasia. Whether it is that the colonial life is too feverish and colonial tempers too impatient to allow of the art becoming popular, I do not know; but certainly it is not so popular as it might be. There are very keen fishermen, and there are very expert fishermen; but they are not numerous. Salmon has been introduced into Australian rivers, trout into New Zealand rivers; and both flourish apace in their respective domains. The trout especially seem to prosper in their new home. A year or two ago a trout weighing nearly 25 lb. was caught in a New Zealand river. Much stringency is observed in the issue of licences; river-rangers are appointed; and the result is that the increase and spread of the fish have been very rapid of late years. New Zealand bids fair to become a favourite resort for the fisherman of the future.

THE RUSSIANS IN PERSIA.*

THE late American Minister to the Court of the Shah has made an opportune contribution to the literature of the Central Asian question. Mr. Benjamin entertains no doubt of the increasing power of the Russian nation, and on many accounts has a great respect for the Russian character. But he also entertains a high opinion of the efficiency of the Russian Intrigue Department—so high, indeed, that if he were an Englishman he would be set down in some quarters as a rampant Russophobist. He tells us that it acts with sleepless vigilance in Persia. "Now with threats, anon with dissimulation and blandishments, and always with money, Russia works openly and secretly to accomplish her ends." Before considering what these ends are in Mr. Benjamin's opinion, it may be well to understand what his opportunities have been for studying the ways and methods of Russian diplomacy in Persia. In 1882 a United States Legation to Persia was created by Act of Congress, and Mr. Benjamin was appointed by the President to establish it. He held the post of Minister at Teheran until 1885, when his party went out of power. American interests in Persia are of a purely commercial kind, and Mr. Benjamin's duties led him to look at political questions chiefly from the commercial point of view. And he found that Russian influence was exerted in direct opposition to the true interests of Persia. For instance, the port of Mohammerah, situate on the delta at the mouth of the Euphrates, only requires to be properly used to open up and develop the resources of the Shah's dominions on the side of the Persian Gulf. There goods can be shipped and unshipped 200 miles nearer the heart of the country than at Bushire. Surveys by European engineers show that a railway thence could be constructed at a moderate cost, passing through one of the richest although least cultivated parts of the country. But this would greatly increase Persia's commercial relations with the Western world; and so, by open threats or secret intrigues, every attempt to develop Persia in this direction has been foiled by Russia. Mr. Benjamin records his conviction that the guiding principle of Russian diplomacy in Persia is to prevent that country becoming too independent of the Czar.

But it is this American gentleman's unprejudiced testimony to the political intrigues of Russia in that region which makes his book specially opportune. "The definite purpose of Russia (he says) sooner or later to push her conquests southward until she reaches the Indian Ocean, either at Bombay or Bushire, cannot now be doubted. The secrecy of her tactics in those quarters shows the same far-sighted determination to accomplish a vast and deep-laid scheme that she has displayed in Europe for a century. None but the most unsophisticated, or those gifted with phenomenal credulity, can accept any other solution of the conduct of Russia." The Cossack advance has always been on the line of least resistance; and now that our strategic railways and frontier defences are advanced as far as the Pisheen Valley, a direct invasion of India is less to be dreaded perhaps. But, what with the domestic disaffection in Afghanistan and the grasp which Russia has obtained on Persia, a menace to India quite as formidable as direct invasion may be developed at any moment by a Russian advance to the sea. Practically, nothing stands in the way but Herat. Said a Russian gentleman to a member of the United States Legation: "Believe nothing you hear *à propos* of the imbroglio on the Eastern frontier. Even if you hear any one swear that we do not want Herat, do not believe him; not even if I swear, not even if the Czar should swear, do not believe it. We want Herat, and we shall have it." Once possessed of that fortress and the territory which would fall to her with it, Russia would be within some 300 miles of the Persian Gulf; and respect for Persian territory would not be allowed to stand in the way of a further advance. Mr. Benjamin is very decided in his opinion on that point. "To move thus in secret; to pave the way with promises and gold; to bluster and prevaricate when discovered; but in any case to move steadily ahead, and to recede not an inch until her battalions halt on the shores of the Southern Sea: this is the policy and determination of Russia."

We had occasion to remark the other day, that if the Czar can see his way to revenging himself on England, at the same time restoring his own prestige a little and salving the excoriated feelings of his generals, that way he will take. The nomination of General Kaulbars to the post of Russian Military Attaché at Teheran is eminently suggestive. In the eyes of Continental Europe this may be tantamount to sending that hectoring hero to Coventry; but not so as far as England is concerned. This "personal agent of the Czar" will find in Persia a congenial field for the exercise of his peculiar qualities. For that matter, Russian intrigue in all its branches is unusually brisk in that quarter just at present, extending even to the interior of Afghanistan. Indeed, the emissaries of Russia are all over Central Asia from Armenia to Kashgaria, from Khiva to the Persian Gulf. India itself is not free from them—not Russians, as Mr. Benjamin explains, but Asiatics in Russian pay, who are familiarizing the people with grandiose ideas of the overpowering growth, the magnitude, the wealth, and the generosity of Russia. Against this insidious method of extending Russian influence, Mr. Benjamin recommends the maintenance of a close and friendly alliance with Persia; but it is a question whether the Persians could be relied upon any more than the Afghans. Both these peoples may prove trustworthy as allies, if and when they are convinced that we can hold Russia in check and that we mean to do so: if and when, we say.

*"Persia and the Persians." By S. G. W. Benjamin. (London: John Murray, 1887.)

TRADE AND FINANCE.

The speculation for the fall in the value of money goes on apace. Yesterday the quotation for short loans was as low as from 1 to 1½ per cent., while for three months' Bank bills it was from 1½ to 1¾ per cent. Of course it is evident that the value of money will be low for some time to come, always assuming that no accident happens. As we have been pointing out of late, the disbursements from the Exchequer will be large for the next fortnight. The collection of the revenue, on the other hand, will fall off greatly from Thursday night next. Consequently there will be a large transfer of money from the Bank of England to the outside market. At the same time the reserve of the Bank of England is very large; and even now the "other deposits" of the Bank of England, in which are included the unused funds at the disposal of the outside market, are large likewise; and still, in spite of the fall in the value of money, gold continues to come in from abroad. Yesterday about £10,000 was sent into the Bank of England. If, then, peace is preserved, and no extraordinary drain arises from abroad, the probability is that we are entering upon a long period of very cheap money. It must not be forgotten, however, that at any moment stringency may arise in the New York market. The surplus reserve of the New York Associated Banks has been steadily falling for several weeks, and is now low. At the same time there is a very large sum locked up in the Treasury for the redemption of Bank notes which cannot be got at, and that fund is steadily increasing. The call for two millions sterling of bonds redeemable on the 1st of May will add to the amount of Bank notes that have to be redeemed, and thus increase the fund in the Treasury. At the same time the revenue is largely in excess of the expenditure. Altogether there is going on a rapid contraction of the circulation in the United States, which is only partially counterbalanced by the issue of gold and silver certificates. Out of this may arise stringency in New York, which will lead to a large demand for gold from London, and from other quarters a demand may likewise arise; but if no accident occur we may reasonably look forward to a cheap money market throughout the summer.

The Berlin and Paris Bourses both opened weak yesterday morning, especially the Berlin Bourse. There were no political rumours afloat; but the feeling was very general that prices would continue to decline for some time to come. The recovery since the recent war scare has been very considerable; and yet when the situation is carefully considered there does not appear even to the optimist City man any such great changes as would warrant the rise. The Bulgarian question is still open; the military preparations all over the Continent are still going on, and, what particularly impresses the City, the German Emperor at the celebration of his birthday, though surrounded by members of every reigning family in Europe, refrained from saying anything very reassuring. Further, on Monday the Settlement here begins, and on Thursday the Liquidation in Paris and on the other Continental Bourses will commence. For all these reasons it is thought that the recent speculation has been carried too far, and that prices must decline. The real truth, of course, is that the speculation in Berlin which has been going on for years is overdone; that the Berlin capitalists and speculators are very anxious to lessen their commitments, and that whenever the opportunity seems favourable they begin to sell. During the recent scare such of them as were able to hold on of course avoided selling in a falling market, and when the scare passed away they helped to recover prices. The recovery having gone so far, they hoped that they might be able to sell without materially affecting prices, and yesterday morning a good deal of stock was offered from Berlin; but the market immediately gave way. There are very few English speculators in Foreign Government bonds and still fewer real investors; therefore, when Berlin begins to sell there is a general disinclination to buy, nobody being willing to take the place of the Berlin speculators at this moment. When this was perceived the selling from Berlin ceased, and at the close the market was decidedly firmer, while the quotation showed in most cases a recovery from the earlier prices of the day. At the close, however, Egyptian Unified and Preference were each ¼ lower; but Daira was ¼ higher. Hungarian Gold Rentes fell ¾, Italian ¼, Russians from ¼ to ½, Spanish ½, Turkish from 1-16 to ½, and Uruguayan again fell 1.

Just now the Foreign market has specially great influence upon all departments of the Stock Exchange. The economic influences acting upon the Stock Exchange are decidedly in favour of higher prices; but these influences have been counteracted by the fear of war. As that fear lessened prices began to rise; but every downward movement in the market for Foreign Government bonds adversely affects other prices. And this influence of the market for Foreign Government bonds is heightened by the feeling of uncertainty in the United States respecting the effect of the Inter-State Commerce Act. That Act comes into force on the 1st of April, and it is very much doubted how it will affect the interests of the railway companies. Just now there seems to be much apprehension that it will disturb trade unnecessarily, check business of every kind, and cause a falling-off in railroad earnings. There is, however, too much uncertainty to lead to any fall of prices; but speculators at the same time are unwilling to increase their engagements. Every day the reports from New York show that the amount of business done is exceedingly small, as the greater operators are waiting to see how the Act will affect business. In addition to all this, the near approach of the Stock Exchange Settlement and the Liquidation on the Continental Bourses, is tending to contract business and to induce speculators to close their accounts. Upon the whole, however, there was at the close a recovery in Home Railway stocks. At one time there was a very general fall, ranging from ¾ to ¾; but at the close, though North-Eastern and North Stafford were ¾ lower, Great Northern A ¼, and Caledonian ¾, most prices recovered. In Grand Trunk of Canada stocks there was a further rise, although it is suggested that probably the extraordinarily good traffic return is due to the fear that the Inter-State Commerce Act may interfere with trade, and consequently that business is being hurried forward. In the market for American Railroad securities most prices closed higher; for it is curious that the apprehensions of New York are not very much shared here. The tendency here is rather to speculate for the rise; while New York is maintaining an observant attitude.

THE ST. JAMES'S GAZETTE.

THIRD EDITION.

FRANCE AND MADAGASCAR.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

PARIS, March 26.—A despatch to the *Soleil* from Marseilles states that the steamer *Amérique* left there yesterday for Toulon, to embark 500 men for Madagascar.

THE RUSSIAN NAVY.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

ST. PETERSBURG, March 26.—The *Official Messenger* to-day publishes an order of the day from the Admiral-in-Chief, directing that all the eighty-seven torpedo-vessels of the Baltic Fleet shall always be kept in readiness for service, and that the crews of forty-five of them shall be provided forthwith.

THE URGENCY DIVISION.

In the division last night upon Mr. John Morley's amendment to the motion for urgency for the Crimes (Ireland) Bill, the following Unionist Liberals supported the Government:—Lord Hartington, Mr. Goschen, Mr. Bright, Mr. Chamberlain, Sir Henry James, Mr. Courtney, Mr. Heneage, Mr. Caine, Mr. Sellar, Lords Baring, Ebrington, Lymington, and Wolmer, Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild, Sir Savile Crossley, Sir William Crossman, Sir Donald Currie, Sir Henry Havelock-Allan, Sir John Lubbock, Sir John St. Aubyn, Sir Thomas Grove, Sir Robert Jardine, Sir Edward Watkin, and Messrs. H. T. Anstruther, Barnes, Bass, H. F. Beaumont, W. B. Smith, Biddulph, A. H. Brown, Caldwell, R. Chamberlain, Coghill, A. C. Corbett, J. Corbett, G. Dixon, A. Elliot, H. Elliot, Finlay, Fitzwilliam, L. Fry, Gurdon, Hastings, Hobhouse, Kenrick, T. Lea, Mackintosh, F. W. Maclean, Maskelyne, Mildmay, More, Morrison, G. P. Lewis, Quilter, Richardson, T. W. Russell, Sinclair, Sutherland, Taylor, Thorburn, Verdin, Vernon, West, Wiggin, J. P. Williams, and Wodehouse, this being a total of 66 which, with 285 Conservatives, made up the total (including tellers) of 351 members in the majority. The minority of 262 (also including tellers) was made up of 176 Gladstonian Liberals, including Sir Joseph Pease and Mr. Christopher Talbot, 84 Nationalists, and 2 Unionist Liberals, Sir Hussey Vivian and Mr. Winterbotham.

The following Liberal Unionists were absent from the division:—Mr. J. W. Barclay, Mr. Thomas R. Buchanan, Lord Edward Cavendish, Mr. Jesse Collings, Sir J. Goldsmid, Mr. Benjamin Hingey, and Mr. C. P. Villiers. The following Gladstonian Liberals were also absent:—Mr. William Abraham, Mr. W. C. Borlase, Mr. J. McD. Cameron, Mr. Childers, Mr. H. W. Lawson, Sir W. Lawson, Mr. Thomas Lewis, Mr. R. Peacock, Mr. W. R. H. Powell, Sir John Simon, Mr. John Slagg, Mr. Samuel Whitbread, Mr. S. Williamson, Mr. C. H. Wilson, and Mr. W. Woodall. The full list of Conservative absentees is as follows:—Mr. C. Allsopp, Mr. G. H. Allsopp, Mr. H. J. Atkinson, Sir Walter Barttelot, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Mr. James A. Campbell, Lord Randolph Churchill, Mr. L. L. Cohen, Mr. Francis Compton, Mr. R. S. Donkin, Mr. A. Duncombe, Mr. H. W. Eaton, Mr. A. Egerton, Mr. W. J. Evelyn, Mr. R. Farquharson, Sir Henry Fletcher, Mr. J. S. Gathorne-Hardy, Colonel C. Hamilton, Lord Claude Hamilton, Mr. S. Herbert, Mr. A. J. Beresford Hope, Colonel Kenyon-Slaney, Mr. C. Lambert, Sir R. Lethbridge, Sir C. Lewis, Mr. W. Lowther, Sir J. McGarel Hogg, Mr. P. A. Muntz, Lord Newark, Sir A. K. Rollit, Captain Selwyn, and Mr. R. Winn. Only two Nationalists were absent—namely, Messrs. M. Harris and T. Leamy. The official division-list states that the numbers who voted were 260 against 349; but only 348 names are given in the "Ayes" list.

The absence of eight Conservatives, six Gladstonians, one Unionist (Lord Edward Cavendish), and one Parnellite was accounted for either by illness or by their being abroad.

THE PRINCE OF WALES.

A Reuter's telegram from Brussels says:—The Prince of Wales, who will arrive here this afternoon from Berlin, will in company with the members of the Belgian royal family, be present this evening at a dramatic performance, organized by the Chasseurs of the Civic Guard, for the benefit of the sufferers by the recent colliery disaster at Quaregnon.

FATHER KELLEHER.

In a letter to the Reverend M. Field, of Youghal, enclosing £5 for the benefit of O'Hanlon's mother, Father Kelleher says:—"The good young man lost his life in the midst of the Youghal people while going with them in a protest against an outrage offered to their most cherished feelings. They will not forget her who was dear to him, and who is now alone in the world in sadness and distress. For my part the memory of Pat Hanlon shall be for ever dear to me, and as long as I live I shall religiously observe the anniversary of his death."

THE EMIN RELIEF EXPEDITION.

The following telegram from Mr. H. M. Stanley (apparently despatched on his arrival at the mouth of the Congo) has just reached London, via Gaboon:—"Arrived morning 18th; move to Matadi 19th. Expedition will arrive at Matadi evening of 21st.—STANLEY."

THE BOARD OF WORKS MONEY BILL.

At the meeting of the Metropolitan Board of Works yesterday the Works and General Purposes Committee reported on the question of the estimates of new borrowing powers to be inserted in the Board's Money Bill, 1887, recommending the approval and insertion in the Bill of a new borrowing power to the amount of £2,592,550, of which £2,181,700 will be required for the Board's own purposes and £410,850 to lend to other bodies. The recommendation was approved, and was referred to the Parliamentary Committee for the purpose of drawing up the necessary Bill.

THE UNIVERSITY BOAT-RACE.

The University Boat-race will be rowed over the usual course this afternoon, the start being appointed for a quarter before three o'clock. The following are the names and weights of the crews:—

OXFORD.		st.	lb.	CAMBRIDGE.		st.	lb.
W. Holland, Brasenose (bow)	10	9½		R. M'Kenna, Trinity Hall (bow)	10	9	
2. G. Nickalls, Magdalen	12	2		2. C. T. Barclay, Third Trinity	11	3	
3. S. G. Williams, Corpus	12	6		3. P. Landale, Trinity Hall	12	2	
4. H. R. Parker, Brasenose	13	4		4. J. R. Orford, King's	13	1	
5. H. M'Lean, New	12	9		5. S. Fairbairn, Jesus	13	5	
6. F. Wethered, Christ Church	12	5		6. S. D. Muttelbury, Third Trinity	13	7	
7. D. H. M'Lean, New	12	10		7. C. Barclay, Third Trinity	11	8	
A. Titherington, Queen's (st.)	12	2½		C. J. Bristowe, Trinity Hall (st.)	10	10	
L. J. Clarke, Exeter (cox.)	7	9		G. H. Baker, Queens' (cox.)	7	1	

The weather is somewhat uncertain, bursts of sunshine alternating with dark and threatening skies; but up to one o'clock no rain had fallen, and the prospect was on the whole promising. The usual display of favours was noticeable this morning; but it would be difficult to assign a preponderance to either light or dark blue, the colours being about equally worn. Between twelve and one o'clock large numbers of craft left the various landing-stages on the river carrying large numbers of persons to witness the race. The steamers chartered by the enterprising Waterbury Watch Company started from the Charing-cross and Westminster piers. The railways are conveying large numbers of spectators, and the roads are enlivened by vehicles of all kinds bearing their contribution to the enormous throng which is always attracted by the race.

THE SPANISH REVOLUTIONISTS.

The Madrid correspondent of the *Standard*, telegraphing yesterday, says:—Great precautions were taken last night in Madrid and in several other garrison towns in the north of Spain by the civil and military authorities, information having been received from abroad which led them to believe that the revolutionary party intended to attempt some fresh military rising. The authorities to-day state that there was no foundation for the rumour that outbreaks had occurred at Burgos, Valladolid, and Ferrol, as the Captains-General of those districts report that perfect tranquillity prevails. The scare seems to have originated in the report that Zorilla had recently succeeded in obtaining money, and wanted to make a last attempt, with the assistance of some discontented officers. The Government has ordered its Consuls and Legations abroad to inform the political refugees that an amnesty will only be granted to those who solicit it before the 15th of April.

MR. RUSKIN AND THE AMBLESIDE RAILWAY BILL.

In a letter to the *Lancaster Observer* of last evening, Mr. Ruskin says:—"I entirely concur with you in the recommendation that the whole Lake district should be bought by the nation for itself; but with reference to the sentence imputing to me 'a claim to carry out my theories at other people's expense,' may I be permitted to remind (or inform) the public that I have given £14,000 to Oxford, 2,000 to Cambridge, £7,000 to the St. George's Guild, and some £3,000 or £4,000 to different schools and museums, beginning with the one I founded at Sheffield; that this total of £25,000 has been given out of a fortune probably reaching not the twenty-fifth part of the sum possessed by the persons who want to enrich themselves further by the ruin of the Lake district; and that I do not intend, therefore, one farthing more to be compelled out of my pockets by the various tribes of louts and scoundrels who are promoting either the Ambleside Railway Bill or any other brutality of the kind."

AN INTERESTING CEREMONY.

The colours of the old trained bands of Westminster are to be presented at St. Margaret's Church, at four o'clock on Sunday afternoon, to the Archdeacon and Churchwardens of Westminster. The Speaker of the House of Commons will be present, and will occupy a chair of state which has not been publicly used for a century. The colours were found in an old chest. They were presented to the corps of which the present Queen's Westminster Rifles are the descendants, by George III.

THE MANCHESTER SHIP CANAL.

It is stated that during the few days that have elapsed since the appeal to the inhabitants of this district was issued by the directors a large number of applications for shares have been received, ranging in amounts from £10 to £5,000, £10,000, and £20,000. The directors observe with great satisfaction that a large number of persons who have hitherto stood aloof from the project have seen their way to support the undertaking by applying for shares.

THEFT OF GOVERNMENT CARTRIDGES.

A singular theft of Government rifle ammunition has been brought to the notice of the police authorities at Lewisham, by whom, in conjunction with the Scotland Yard authorities, the matter is now being investigated. It appears that one night this week a shed, situated at the rifle-butts and practice-ground at Bromley-hill, was broken into and some 820 rounds of Martini-Henry ball cartridges were stolen. The thieves had apparently effected an entrance to the shed by pulling out some of the wooden boards, after which they had to force the lock of an iron chest which contained the ammunition.

A FAMOUS PARIS BARBER.

A famous Parisian barber of the old school, named Lespès, has (the Paris correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* says) just gone the way of all flesh. Like Nello's shop in Florence, the establishment directed by M. Lespès was once the matutinal resort of the literary and artistic celebrities of the day, as well as a local landmark for foreign tourists and provincials. The interior of the shop was not only decorated with sketches by well-known artists, but was also embellished with scraps of prose and verse, contributed by some of the leading *littérateurs* of France. Lespès, whose real name was Raymond, used to boast in the heyday of his prosperity that, although he had come to Paris in wooden shoes, he had succeeded so well in trade that he employed twenty assistants and paid taxes for fourteen windows on the boulevard. It was Lespès who invented the famous Portugal decoction with which French *coiffeurs* anoint the heads of their customers, and he actually received on this account the ribbon and cross of the Order of Christ from Don Luiz of Portugal. He was prosecuted, however, for wearing the ribbon, as it was like that of the Legion of Honour. Lespès retired from business some time ago.

CABINET COUNCIL.

A Cabinet Council was held at the Foreign Office at noon to-day. Lord Ashbourne, previous to its assembling, had been engaged with the Attorney-General for Ireland at the Irish Office.

THE CRIMES BILL.

Before the House of Commons adjourned this morning, Mr. Akers-Douglas, in answer to a question by Mr. Parnell, said he understood that the Secretary for Ireland would introduce the Criminal Law Amendment (Ireland) Bill on Monday. Mr. Parnell thereupon gave notice that he should move, as an amendment, "That this House will immediately resolve itself into Committee, to consider the state of Ireland."

THE WEATHER.

The following remarks on the weather appear in the report issued to-day by the Meteorological Office: The depressions noticed yesterday over Germany and the North Sea have travelled away in an easterly direction, and the barometer has risen over the greater part of Western Europe. In the course of the night, however, a fresh fall has commenced in the west of Ireland. The wind is light from the south-east in the north of Scandinavia, and moderate from north-west over Great Britain, Denmark, the Netherlands, and France; but in Ireland it has backed to south-west, and is inclined to freshen. Rain is falling at most of the Irish stations, and snow in Sweden; but elsewhere the weather is at present fair. Showers of hail and rain fell yesterday over nearly the whole of western Europe. Temperature has changed little and irregularly; and reading over our islands now range from 49 deg. at Valencia and 48 deg. at Scilly to 39 deg. at Spurr Head. The sea is rather rough at Valencia and also off the north and north-west of France, but moderate to smooth elsewhere. A new depression of considerable size appears to be advancing towards our western coasts and the unsettled weather in Ireland seems likely to extend eastwards. An increase of wind from the southward is probable on and over our north-western coasts.

The weather forecast issued from the Meteorological Office for the twenty-four hours ending at noon to-morrow says that in the south of England, including London and the Channel, we may expect north-westerly winds, light to south-westerly fresh; fine at first, less settled later, probably some rain.

At noon to-day, Negretti and Zambra's barometer in the office of the *St. James's Gazette* marked 30.16. The reading yesterday was 29.64.

THE LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET.

A telegram from Liverpool at eleven o'clock to-day says:—The cotton market opened unchanged with a fair demand. Probable sales 8,000 or 10,000 bales. Prices on the spot are steady. Futures are firm, and have risen one point. The following transactions are reported for delivery:—June-July, 31-64d.; July-August, 33-64d.; August-September 34-64d.

A TAX ON PROFESSIONAL APPLAUSE.

A short time ago the fiscal authorities of Vienna took it into their heads to impose a tax of 1,400 fl. on the *chef de clique* of the Court Opera House. The functionary in question protested, and appealed to the law. The competent court has just decided the case against him, being of opinion that professional applause is a marketable commodity, legally subject to taxation.

The Bishop of Oxford held a confirmation service at Eton College to-day, when a large number of students were confirmed.

The date of Lord Randolph Churchill's visit to Birmingham has now been fixed for Thursday, the 14th of April.

A Jubilee gift to Buckingham was made yesterday in the presentation by Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Hubbard of a new nursing home, which cost about £4,000.

Mr. Arthur P. Luff has been appointed to the chair of Medical Jurisprudence and Toxicology in St. Mary's Hospital Medical School.

A ball will be given at the Inner Temple on the 24th of May, in honour of her Majesty's birthday. All members of the Inn will be invited to attend.

At a general assembly of the Incorporated Society of British Artists held last evening, Mr. Waldo Story and Mr. Theodore Roussel were elected members. Mr. Charles Keene was elected honorary member.

Lieutenant H. S. P. Davies, Assistant Commissioner, Peshawur, has been appointed private secretary to Mr. J. B. Lyall, the new Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab.

Eleven young Alsatians from Mulhouse and neighbourhood have been sentenced each to six months' imprisonment for wearing tri-coloured ribbons in their button-holes.

The immigrants who arrived in the United States during the eight months ending with February last numbered 221,409, as against 156,942 who arrived during the corresponding period of the preceding year.

The Paris Hippodrome will return to the French capital in a few days, when the performances at Olympia will terminate. Several important fixtures have been made for shows immediately to follow the hippodrome.

The Aquarellistes Français (French Water-Colour Society) intend to hold their first Water-Colour Exhibition in London at the Goupil Galleries (116 and 117, New Bond-street) next month.

It is Mr. Walter Hook, not Hood, who has revised Dean Hook's "Church Dictionary."

THIS DAY'S MONEY MARKET.

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

The demand for money in the open market is more active in consequence of repayments to the Bank of England, and the rate for short loans is 1¼ to 1½ per cent. Discount is quoted 1½ to 1¾ per cent.

The Stock Markets exhibit a dull tendency. Consols are quiet and without much business. Foreign Securities are easier, owing to the unsettled state of Bulgarian affairs, and on the weak closing of the Continental Bourses. Home Railways are undecided, fresh transactions being held in check by the near approach of the Settlement. Grand Trunk of Canada stocks mark a slight decline on sales to secure profits after the recent rise; and Mexican Railway stocks also show increased dullness on the closing of the accounts before the

Settlement, which commences on Monday. American Securities are dull on balance in the absence of support from New York.

In the English Funds, Consols for money and the account (April) are unchanged at 101½ to 102, and 101 15-16 to 102 1-16. Reduced and New Three per Cents. are quoted at 100½ to 101, and New Two-and-a-Half per Cents. 88½ to 89.

In Home Railways, Caledonian has fallen ¼, Brighton A ¼, North-Western ¼, and South-Eastern Deferred ¼; but Chatham Ordinary has risen ¼, and Sheffield A ¼. In Canadian and Foreign Railways, Grand Trunk First Preference has fallen ¼, the Second ¼, the Third ¼, the Guaranteed ¼, Mexican First Preference ¼, and the Second ¼.

In Foreign Government Bonds, Egyptian Unified has fallen ¼, the Daira ¼, French Four-and-a-Half per Cent. Rentes ¼, Hungarian Gold Rentes ¼, Italian Five per Cents. of 1861 ¼, Peruvian Five per Cents. of 1872 ¼, Portuguese Three per Cents. ¼, Russian of 1873 ¼, and Spanish Four per Cents. ¼; but Uruguay Unified has risen ¼.

In American Securities, New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio First Mortgage Bonds have fallen ¼, Lake Shore ¼, Louisville ¼, New York Central ¼, Ohio ¼, Pennsylvania ¼, Reading ¼, and Wabash Ordinary ¼; but Central Pacific has risen ¼, Milwaukee ¼, and Erie Second Mortgage ¼.

A prospectus is issued of the Incandescent Gas Light Company (Limited), having a share capital of £500,000 in £5 shares, of which £166,665 will be taken by the vendors; and the present issue is the balance of £333,335, payable 5s. per share on application, £1 on allotment, and the balance extending over a period of four months. The company is formed for the purpose of acquiring the English and the eighteen colonial and foreign patents for gas-lighting by incandescence, invented by Dr. Carl von Welsbach, of Vienna, and for working and selling the same. Amongst the advantages claimed are a superior light and a saving equal to from 50 to 75 per cent. of the gas consumed by ordinary gas-burners. Applications will be received at the London and Westminster Bank, where the subscription list will be opened on the 28th inst., and will be closed on Thursday evening, the 31st of March, at 4 P.M.

ENGLISH GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.			FOREIGN STOCK MARKETS.		
Consols	101 15-16	102	Argentine Six per Cent. of 1868 ..	101	103
Reduced Three per Cent. ..	100 3/4	101	Ditto Six per Cent. of 1871 ..	101	103
New Three per Cent. ..	100 3/4	101	Ditto 6 p. Cent. Hard Dol. Bonds ..	74 1/2	74 3/4
New Two-and-a-Half per Cent. ..	88 1/2	89	Austrian Four p. Ct. Gold Rentes ..	89	91
India Stock Four per Cent. ..	101 1/2	101 3/4	Ditto Five per Cent. Silver ..	64	66
Ditto Three per Cent. ..	87 1/2	87 3/4	Brazilian Five per Cent. of 1865 ..	100	101
Ditto Four per Ct. Rupee Paper ..	69	69 1/2	Ditto Five per Cent. of 1871 ..	99	100
Ditto 4 1/2 per Ct. Rupee Paper ..	71 1/2	71 3/4	Ditto Five per Cent. of 1875 ..	99	100
Bank of England Stock ..	293	293 1/2	Ditto 4 1/2 per Cent. of 1883 ..	92 1/2	93 1/2
Metropolitan 3 1/2 per Cent. ..	107 1/2	108	Buenos Ayres Six per Cent. of 1870 ..	101	103
COLONIAL GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.			Ditto Six per Cents. of 1873 ..	101	103
Canada 4 per Cent. of 1910-35 ..	105	106	Chilian 4 1/2 per Cent. Conversion ..	99	100
N.S. Wales 4 p. Ct. of 1903-5-8-9-10 ..	103 1/2	104 1/2	Chinese Six p. Ct. of 1895, March ..	110	112
N. Zealand 4 per Ct. Cons. Ins. ..	97 1/2	98 1/2	Ditto Six p. Cent. of 1895, June ..	108	110
Queensland 6 per Cent. 1891-96 ..	106	108	Costa Rica 5 per Cent. Bonds A ..	69	70
S. Australian 4 p. Ct. of 1894-1916 ..	99	100	Ditto B 4 p. Ct. now 5 p. Ct. 1888 ..	62 1/2	63 1/2
Tasmanian 6 per Ct. of 1893-1901 ..	106	108	Egyptian Three p. Ct. Guaranteed ..	98 1/2	99 1/2
Victoria 4 1/2 per Cent. of 1904 ..	106	108	Ditto Five p. Ct. State Domain ..	94 1/2	95 1/2
AMERICAN SECURITIES.			Ditto Four per Cent. Unified ..	74 1/2	74 3/4
United States 4 1/2 per Cent. Bonds ..	111 1/2	111 3/4	Ditto Five per Cent. Preference ..	97 1/2	97 3/4
Ditto Four per Cent. ..	130 1/2	130 3/4	Ditto Four p. Ct. Daira Sanieh ..	72	72 1/2
Virginia Funded Bonds ..	57	57 1/2	Entre Rios 6 p. Ct. 1886 ..	94 1/2	95 1/2
New York, Pennsylvania, and ..	47 1/2	47 3/4	Ditto 6 p. Ct. Ry. Mortgage ..	94 1/2	95 1/2
Ohio First Mortgage Bonds ..	38 1/2	38 3/4	French Three per Cent. Rentes ..	80	80 1/2
Central Pacific Shares ..	93	93 1/2	Ditto 4 1/2 per Cent. of 1872 ..	107 1/2	108
Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Paul ..	29	29 1/2	Greek Five per Cent. of 1879 ..	81	83
Denver and Rio Grande Shares ..	133	134	Ditto Five per Cent. of 1881 ..	62 1/2	63 1/2
Illinois Shares ..	97 1/2	97 3/4	Ditto Five per Cent. of 1884 ..	61 1/2	62 1/2
Lake Shore and Michigan ..	66	66 1/2	Hungarian Gold Rentes of 1881 ..	79 1/2	79 3/4
Southern 100-dol. Shares ..	114 1/2	114 3/4	Italian Five per Cent. of 1861 ..	96	96 1/2
Louisville and Nashville 100-dol. ..	34 1/2	34 3/4	Mexican Old Three per Cent. ..	28	28 1/2
Shares ..	74	75	Ditto of 1864 ..	12 1/2	13
New York Central Shares ..	101 1/2	102 1/2	Norwegian Four per Cent. of 1866 ..	103	105
New York, Lake Erie, & Western ..	18 1/2	18 3/4	Peruvian Six per Cent. of 1870 ..	15 1/2	15 3/4
100-dol. Shares ..	28 1/2	28 3/4	Ditto Five per Cent. of 1872 ..	13 1/2	13 3/4
Ditto Preference Six per Cent ..	15 1/2	15 3/4	Portuguese Three per Cent. ..	54 1/2	54 3/4
Ditto Second Mortgage Bonds ..	59 1/2	59 3/4	Russian Five per Cent. of 1871 ..	92	93
New York, Ontario, and Western ..	105 1/2	105 3/4	Ditto Five per Cent. of 1872 ..	94	95
Shares ..	59 1/2	59 3/4	Ditto Five per Cent. of 1873 ..	93 1/2	94
Ohio and Mississippi Shares ..	17 1/2	17 3/4	Ditto 4 1/2 per Cent. of 1875 ..	88	90
Oregon and California Seven per ..	30 1/2	30 3/4	Santa Fe 5 p. Ct. N. C. Ry. Mort. ..	99	101
Cent. Preference Shares ..	120 1/2	120 3/4	Ditto 5 p. Ct. Extensions Mort. ..	90	92
Pennsylvania Shares ..	43	43 1/2	Spanish Four per Cent. ..	64 3-16	64 5-16
Philadelphia and Reading Shares ..	111 1/2	112 1/2	Ditto Two per Cent. ..	46	47
Ditto General Mortgage Bonds ..	124 1/2	125	Swedish Four per Cent. of 1880 ..	104	106
Union Pacific Shares ..	101 1/2	101 3/4	Turkish Six per Cent. Group 1 ..	22	23
Wabash, St. Louis, and Pacific ..	120 1/2	121	Ditto Nine per Cent. ..	13 1/2	13 3/4
Ordinary Shares ..	129 1/2	130	Ditto Six & Five per Ct. ..	13 5-16	13 7-16
Ditto 100-dol. Preference ..	120 1/2	121	Ditto 4 1/2 p. Ct. Tribute Loan of 1871 ..	73	73 1/2
BRITISH AND FOREIGN RAILWAY STOCKS.			Ditto Five per Cent. of 1874 ..	94	96
Caledonian	99	99 1/2	Ditto Five per Cent. Defence ..	85	85 1/2
Great Eastern	112	113	Uruguay Unified Five p. Ct. of 1883 ..	55 1/2	56 1/2
Great Northern Ordinary ..	102 1/2	103 1/2	BANKS.		
Ditto A	136 1/2	136 3/4	Anglo-Egyptian	16	17
Great Western	119	120	City	18 1/2	19
Lancashire and Yorkshire ..	132	134	Colonial	34	36
London and Brighton Ordinary ..	120 1/2	121	Consolidated	6 3/4	7 1/4
Ditto A	24 1/2	24 3/4	Imperial Ottoman	10	10 1/2
London, Chatham, & Dover Ord ..	100 1/2	100 3/4	London and County	8 1/2	8 3/4
Ditto 4 1/2 per Cent. Preference ..	164	164 1/2	London and Westminster ..	64 1/2	65 1/2
London and North-Western ..	128	129	London Joint Stock	37	38
London and South-Western ..	74	75	National Provincial (42 paid) ..	50	51
Manchester, Sheffield, & Lincoln ..	43	43 1/2	Union of London	35 1/2	37 1/2
Ditto A	111 1/2	112 1/2	MINING SHARES.		
Metropolitan	41 1/2	41 3/4	Cape Copper	24	25
Metropolitan District	124 1/2	125	Indian Consolidated	7 1/2	8
Midland	101 1/2	101 3/4	Mason and Barry	8 1/2	8 3/4
North British	154	154 1/2	Montana	6 1/2	7
North-Eastern	93	94	Mysore Gold	6 11-16	6 13-16
North Staffordshire	129	130	Oreogum Gold	13-16	15-16
South-Eastern Ordinary	109 1/2	110 1/2	Richmond Consolidated	4 1/2	4 3/4
Ditto Deferred	14 1/2	14 3/4	Rio Tinto	10 1/2	11
Grand Trunk of Canada Ordinary ..	79 1/2	80	St. John del Rey	55	60
Ditto First Preference Stock ..	66 1/2	66 3/4	Tharsis Sulphur	3 1/2	3 3/4
Ditto Second Preference Stock ..	36	36 1/2	United Mexican	2	2 1/2
Ditto Third Preference Stock ..	77 1/2	78	TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE SECURITIES.		
Ditto Guaranteed	63 1/2	63 3/4	Anglo-American	34	35
Canadian Pacific Shares	23 1/2	24	Brazilian Submarine	10 1/2	11
Buenos Ayres & Pac. 7 p. Ct. Shares ..	128	130	Consolidated Telephone	8 1/2	9
Ditto 7 p. Ct. Debentures	7 1/2	7 3/4	Direct United States	10 1/2	10 3/4
Lombardo-Venetian	61 1/2	62 1/2	Eastern	11 1/2	11 3/4
Ditto Eight per Cent. First Pref. ..	119 1/2	120	Eastern Extension	5 1/2	5 3/4
Ditto Six p. Cent. Second Pref ..	83 1/2	84 1/2	Globe Ordinary	12 1/2	12 3/4
Ditto Six per Cent. Perpetual ..	124	126	Ditto Preference	22	23
MISCELLANEOUS SHARES.			India-rubber, Gutta-percha, and ..	3-16	5-16
Australian Agricultural	120	125	Telegraph Works	36	37
Anglo-Am. Brush Light (43 paid) ..	2 1/2	3	Oriental Telephone	12 1/2	12 3/4
Hudson's Bay	22 1/2	22 3/4	Telegraph Construction	7 1/2	7 3/4
National Discount	61	63	United Telephone	10 1/2	10 3/4
Peninsular and Oriental Steam ..	37	39	Western and Brazilian	10 1/2	10 3/4
Royal Mail Steam	80 1/2	81	TRAMWAY SHARES.		
Suez Canal	120	125	Dublin	10 1/2	10 3/4
			Glasgow	12 1/2	13 1/4
			Liverpool Un. Tram and Omnibus ..	10 1/2	11 1/4
			London	19 1/2	20 1/4
			London Street	19 1/2	20 1/4
			North Metropolitan	20 1/2	21 1/4

Quarter-past One.

The Stock Markets show little general change. Compared with the prices given above, Consols are 1-16 per cent. lower for the account at 101½ to 102, Sheffield A ¼ at 42½, Canadian Pacific ¼ at 63½, Egyptian Preference ¼ at 97½, Italian ¼ at 96, Milwaukee ¼ at 92½, and Erie shares ¼ at 34½; but French Four-and-a-Half per Cents. have advanced ¼ to 108, Grand Trunk First Preference ¾ to 80½, the Second Preference ¼ to 66½, the Third Preference ¾ to 36½, and the Guaranteed ¾ to 78½.

LAST NIGHT IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE END OF THE PRELIMINARY DEBATE.

SPECIAL REPORT.

At a quarter to two o'clock this morning, by 349 votes to 260, Mr. Morley's amendment to the urgency resolution of the Government was rejected by the House of Commons, which decided to devote all its time to the Bill for the prevention of crime in Ireland, to be introduced on Monday. The debate had been an unreal one from the beginning, and for the greater part of yesterday's sitting it reached its lowest level. Honourable members appeared, by some prophetic instinct, to have divined that it would be dull and tedious; for until late in the evening the House was very thinly attended, and Mr. Shaw-Lefevre had to resume the discussion just before five o'clock to rows of benches that were more than half empty. The right honourable gentleman's speech did not even attract more than one or two of his late colleagues; for the front Opposition bench, like the Treasury bench, had a very scanty show of occupants when Mr. Lefevre rose; and though Mr. Gladstone came in later to listen with rapt attention to the rough eloquence and humorous stories of Mr. T. D. Sullivan, he did not pay the same flattering attention to his own Postmaster-General of a former day.

Mr. Lefevre was very much surprised at the conduct of Mr. Chamberlain. It was "an extraordinary constitutional novelty" that Mr. Chamberlain should have shown on the previous night so full a knowledge of the plans of a Ministry to which he did not belong, and should have expounded them "at greater length than the Government themselves." Mr. Lefevre was a long time getting over this severe shock, which so demoralized him that at last he began to tell Cabinet secrets of his own—how Mr. Chamberlain, though now a supporter of coercion, was one of its strongest opponents when in Mr. Gladstone's Cabinet; how he and Mr. Lefevre and Sir Charles Dilke were then at one in their anxiety to prevent a coercive policy from being carried out; and how, notwithstanding the seal upon all Cabinet Ministers' lips, interesting information as to the attitude taken up used to leak out, presumably through Mr. Chamberlain, to the columns of a daily newspaper in Birmingham. Of course Mr. Lefevre was far too discreet to say all this outright in so many plain words; but, by the help of ingenious hints and suggestions, he managed to make his meaning quite clear. This was the only interesting part of his speech: for the rest, he closely followed the arguments used by Mr. Gladstone and other previous speakers in opposition to the policy of the Government. An animated speech in defence of that policy was next delivered by Mr. T. W. Russell, whose vehement style and vigorous earnestness afterwards formed a subject for amusing comment by Mr. T. D. Sullivan. Mr. Sullivan also entertained the House with some novel views in reference to the observance of the Ten Commandments; for he maintained that though the Commandments were frequently said to be disregarded in Ireland, yet, "taking them all round," they were as well observed there as in England, where they were only followed "with a certain abatement quite as large as that which the Irish tenant demanded from his rent." The honourable gentleman proceeded to paint a fancy sketch of the Irish landlord in the blackest of colours, as "worthless, vicious, and bad," "an affliction and burden upon the people," "idle, improvident, and ignorant." He quoted severe articles from the *Times* of more than thirty years ago to show what a very bad lot the landlord had always been, and an amusing assortment of anecdotes collected by Professor Mahaffy to show what an equally bad lot he still remains. The choicest story of the collection was that of the old lady of the landlord class who, when urged to educate her son, replied: "What does the boy want with education? Isn't he a fine handsome boy; and can't I keep him till he grows up? And then he'll go over to England, and some rich lady will *träte herself to him!*"

When the humorous stores of Mr. Sullivan had been exhausted, Mr. Curzon delivered a telling speech in support of the Government; and the rest of the time until after dinner was filled up by Mr. Herbert Gardner, Mr. C. W. Gray, Mr. Channing, Mr. W. Macdonald, and Mr. Howorth. Sir Henry James rose somewhere about ten o'clock, and sent another broadside into the Gladstonians from a Liberal Unionist standpoint, urging that the Government ought to be helped to make the law respected and that no Ministry could consent to be "bullied by anarchy." He showed that Mr. Shaw-Lefevre, who now posed as a thoroughgoing hater of coercion, gave no fewer than eighty-seven votes for coercive measures in the year 1882; but the most damaging part of his speech was that in which he exploded a theory of which Mr. Gladstone and his friends have often taken advantage. It has been popularly supposed that the Liberal detestation of coercion is so deep that nothing but the sternest necessity would drive the party to adopt a coercive policy; and that the sole reason for introducing and hurriedly passing the terrible Crimes Act, the most fearful scourge in the shape of coercive legislation that Ireland has ever had to submit to in our times, was the murder of Lord Frederick Cavendish and Mr. Burke. But Sir Henry James now explained to a wondering House, and to the manifest uneasiness of the majority of the occupants of the front Opposition bench, that Sir William Harcourt's Crimes Bill was submitted to him, not only drafted but actually in print, for his opinion as law officer of the Crown, on the very day that the news of the assassination was known in London. The Bill, in fact, was part of a settled policy previously resolved upon by the Cabinet, and was not, as is commonly supposed, the outcome of the Phoenix Park tragedy.

Sir William Harcourt spoke for an hour between eleven and twelve. His distaste for the unpalatable revelations of Sir Henry James was manifested by a few sarcasms; and then he proceeded to lay down the astonishing doctrine—heard with great delight by the Parnellites, who cheered it heartily—that it is not the duty of "civilized society" (or, in other words, the Government) to enforce the law unless the law happens to be good. To the contrary doctrine he opposed, with a magnificent effrontery, "an absolute denial." Where the law is unjust the first duty of the Government is "to abrogate or amend it," "not to suppress

crime by coercion, but to amend the unjust law which caused it." Sir William then became humorous, describing Mr. Goschen as "the pillar of the Government within" and Mr. Chamberlain as "its buttress without." He attributed Mr. Chamberlain's "complete confidence" in the remedial measures of the Government to the fact that they would make the Irish tenant a bankrupt; and the right honourable gentleman, in whom "the bump of philoprogenitiveness" was strongly developed, was so enamoured of his own Bankruptcy Act that he thought it was "the sum of human felicity" to become a bankrupt under it. But Sir William Harcourt's own view was that the first thing to be done was not to coerce the people into the payment of impossible rents, even with the benefits of the Bankruptcy Act beyond, but to make the rents fair rents.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer wound up the debate for the Government at midnight, in a speech which, despite the embarrassing efforts of a few Gladstonians and the bulk of the Parnellites to interrupt and confuse its author, was strong and energetic and produced a great effect upon the House. The interruptions were so great that, after many ineffectual utterances of the usual formula, "Order, order!" the Speaker took the unusual step of "appealing" to honourable gentlemen to be more orderly; whereupon there was some abatement of the nuisance. Mr. Goschen noted once more the "great change" which had taken place in the views of Sir William Harcourt; but made short work of his new doctrine that "the laws ought to be enforced only in proportion as they were considered just by those who ought to be subject to them." Mr. Goschen spent some time in answering Mr. Gladstone; and the charge of "suppressing individual initiative," which the ex-Premier had made against the Government, was disposed of by reminding the House that the House had been sitting more than eight weeks and had practically done little or nothing. Its time had been systematically wasted, and the Government had "received no assistance from the regular Opposition." Mr. Gladstone cried "Hear, hear" again and again at this; and Mr. Goschen retorted that it used to be "the tradition of the Opposition that they should assist the Executive Government of the day in promoting the business of Parliament;" but this was the first time in the history of the country that "ex-Prime Ministers and ex-Home Secretaries had refused to assist in upholding the law, had deserted the Executive Government of the day, and had ranged themselves on the side of disorder." Mr. Goschen went on to convict Mr. Gladstone of an exceedingly unfair use of the evidence of Sir Redvers Buller before the Cowper Commission, and denounced as "a libel on the intentions of the Government" the declaration that they only wanted a Coercion Bill to enforce the payment of rent. He showed that it was the purpose and object of the agitators of the National League to prevent the payment of rent even where the tenant desired to pay it, and he gave a case within his own knowledge where a tenant paid his rent secretly but implored his landlord to "send him an eviction notice, or his life would be in danger." The Parnellites shouted "Name, name!" with much energy. "Oh, yes," replied Mr. Goschen, amid much cheering and some laughter, "I will give you the name when we have passed this Bill; but till then—until you have ceased to boycott truth—I will not hand over the name to the tender mercies and the vengeance of the League."

At five minutes past one o'clock Mr. Parnell moved the adjournment of the debate, on the ground that the Irish party had not had a fair chance of expressing their views. This after four nights of debate on a purely formal motion—a debate in which very few Irish members have chosen to rise, and in which all who have risen have been called upon by the Speaker to address the House! Of course Mr. W. H. Smith resisted the motion, and a brief wrangle ensued; but, after a little gentle persuasion from Mr. Gladstone (who lectured Mr. Smith in quite a fatherly way), Mr. Parnell consented to withdraw his motion, and the division was taken on Mr. Morley's amendment, with the result already set forth. The announcement of the numbers was loudly cheered by the Parnellites and Gladstonians, who seemed to think it quite a pleasure to be beaten by a majority of 89 in a House of 614 members; and, after an ineffectual attempt by Mr. Labouchere to get Friday sittings set apart for private members, the original resolution of the Government was agreed to. Just before it was accepted, Sir William Harcourt managed to make a fine dramatic display by declaring the Government Bill to be already dead, though a majority of 89 is not usually considered a sign of premature dissolution.

AMUSEMENTS AT GIRTON.

The following is from an article in the *Lady's World* for April:—Like the outside world, Girton has its sudden "rages" for some amusement that carries all before it for a few weeks and then sinks back into obscurity. One winter we all suffered from a mania for blowing soap-bubbles, and how to procure the indispensable long clay-pipes without giving rise to scandal became the problem of the day. One student used to be the observed of all observers as in the half-hour after dinner, when "the tables were drawn, it was idlesse all," she would waft with skilful breath a large bubble from the foot of the main staircase to the first floor and back again in safety. Most people's bubbles collapsed ignominiously at the third or fourth stair. A doll show was the next pastime; after a week or two of preparation a number of daintily dressed wax beauties and a few Dutch maids-of-all-work were duly exhibited, and then sent off for the children's ward of a large hospital. At one time curious noises were frequently heard in the room of one of my friends; and we were told that the student overhead was reviving, with a select party, the classic game of knuckle-bones. The friend in question was an enthusiastic naturalist, noted for her aquarium and for the capacity of her hospitable room, which accommodated an indefinite number of guests at Sunday afternoon tea, for on that day the servants rest from their four o'clock tray duties. But the numerous friends of Miss — never seated themselves without a furtive glance into corners where some pet frog might be lurking. Once a festive party assembled to "wake" a tortoise, which had been brought from Covent Garden, but did not long survive, in spite of careful diet. He was duly laid out on a chair, while we honoured his memory in a truly Irish manner.

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

THE REVOLUTIONARY AGITATION IN RUSSIA.

The manifesto of a new revolutionary party in Russia, called the "Free Confederation" was published in Vienna yesterday. Its programme is set forth in twenty-five articles, and embraces all sorts of constitutional liberties for the country, but the most important article is the last, which says, "The head of the State may be a hereditary Emperor or a freely elected temporary President." From this it would seem that the party is more republican than constitutional. The Vienna correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* says:—I have received again to-day information from St. Petersburg that the revolutionary peril is increasing in alarming proportions. My correspondent hesitates to call it Nihilism because the movement has a much more general revolutionary character than has what is usually termed Nihilism. But he affirms that the vanguard is composed of Nihilists, and that it will probably be after a period of Nihilist terrorism that the other revolutionary elements will come to the front.

THE SITUATION IN BULGARIA.

Reports received in Vienna from Belgrade represent further disturbances in Bulgaria as imminent. Rumours to that effect have been current for the last few days; but there is no trustworthy information to show that there is any foundation for them. The Vienna correspondent of the *Standard* says:—

I see it is reported from Paris that the object of M. Radoslavoff's tour through Bulgaria is to promote the formation of the national defence clubs now being organized throughout the country. My information is that, on the contrary, the Premier and one of the Regents are going through the country with the object of counterbalancing the personal influence of the agitator Stojanoff, who, by means of these clubs, is forming a powerful party which, when sufficiently organized, may overturn the Regency and Ministry. Stojanoff still professes to act in concert with the existing Government; but he is a Republican, and has achieved a wonderful popularity throughout the country. The clubs, if entirely under his influence, might become a serious danger to the Administration, and the Regency, therefore, sees the necessity of keeping in touch with them, so as to remind the country that Stojanoff is not altogether master of Bulgaria.

No proposals have, it is stated in Vienna, been made by Russia on the Bulgarian question, and none seem to be any longer expected. As the Austrian Government cannot make any move without its intentions being misinterpreted, the next must come from Turkey or from Bulgaria herself.

PORT HAMILTON.

With regard to the statement made by Lord Cranbrook in the House of Lords on the evacuation of Port Hamilton, it is not impossible (the Vienna correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* remarks) that the wisdom of that step may be questioned in more quarters than one. For the last twelve years the English Government have been urged to annex the small island of Komundo, whereon Port Hamilton is situated. It commands the navigation to North China and controls all access to the Russian harbours of Eastern Siberia. Port Hamilton is practically the Dardanelles of the Japanese Sea. If it were in the possession of England, the Russian plan, in case of war, of sending forth cruisers from the ports of the Pacific against British merchant-vessels would encounter serious obstacles. This and other important considerations led the English officials best acquainted with that part of the world to press the Government to occupy Port Hamilton.

THE RESIGNATION OF HERR VON KEUDELL.

The Roman correspondent of the *Times* thus explains the resignation of Herr von Keudell, German Ambassador to the Italian Court:—He had decided to resign next year in any case, for reasons purely domestic, and this decision was quickened by an incident connected with the Tripartite Treaty. This incident, as I am informed from a source in which I have confidence, but for which I cannot vouch absolutely, was the sending of the treaty, as ratified, to the Ambassador for delivery to the King in a sealed packet; this implying a want of confidence in Herr von Keudell which he considered an indignity. It is possible that this may be explained away; for the loyalty of the Ambassador and his absolute devotion to the service of his Government are so pronounced that it is hard to understand how any one knowing him could think of taking precautions against his indiscretion. He is a man absolutely incapable of exceeding his instructions by a hair's-breadth. One inference may be drawn from the incident—namely, that, if the conditions of the treaty are so carefully concealed from high officials, they are not likely to find their way into the newspapers.

ALLEGED TORTURE OF RUSSIAN PRISONERS.

Reports are circulated here (the St. Petersburg correspondent of the *Daily News* says), even in diplomatic circles, that the persons arrested during the last few weeks are being submitted to torture in the prisons. I think, nevertheless, that these reports are completely unfounded. Similar rumours always arise at such moments as the present, and it is to be noted that stories of the same nature were spread about as to the treatment of the prisoners in Bulgaria. Lawyers who have visited the political criminals condemned during the last five or six years, and who have been allowed full liberty to talk to them in the fortress, have told me that the political criminals always declared themselves quite satisfied with their treatment. It is true the lawyers added that they would not answer for what might happen when the prisoners were once sentenced to death. One Russian Minister whom I questioned on the subject asserted that political criminals are well treated before their trial; but he also said that what they suffer in the condemned cells is many times worse than death. Ten more officers have just been taken to the fortress under the escort of a Cossack squadron.

STATUE OF THE QUEEN FOR MADRAS.

A bronze casting was taken on Thursday at Thames Ditton of Boehm's beautiful marble statue of the Queen now at Windsor. The reproduction has been made by her Majesty's permission, and is to be presented to the city of Madras by a loyal native gentleman in honour of the Jubilee year. The Duke of Buckingham was expected to be present, but he was unable to attend in consequence of the death of his brother-in-law, Sir Robert Bateson Harvey, and General Michael, who has been associated with the Duke in procuring the statue, performed together with Mr. Boehm the ceremony of letting in the metal.

ANCIENT MONUMENTS.

By order of the Privy Council it has been decided that the following monuments shall be deemed to be ancient monuments under the provisions of "The Ancient Monuments Protection Act, 1882":—1, Little Kits' Coty House, or the Countess Stones of Tottington, in the county of Kent; 2, the Chambered Tumulus at Buckholt in Gloucestershire; 3, the Druid's Circle and Tumulus on Eyam Moor, Derbyshire; 4, the Pictish Tower of Carloway in Ross-shire; 5, the Ruthwell Runic Cross in Dumfriesshire; and 6, St. Ninians' Cave in Wigtownshire. The order will come into force after it has lain for forty days before both Houses of Parliament.

THE PRINCE OF WALES.

Sir Edward and Lady Ermytrude Malet gave a dinner last night in honour of the Prince of Wales, their Excellencies' guests including the Crown Prince and Princess and their daughter the Princess Victoria, Prince Henry, with his betrothed the Princess Irene of Hesse, the Hereditary Prince and Princess of Meiningen, the Grand Duke and Hereditary Grand Duke of Hesse, Prince and Princess Christian, the Duke and Duchess of Sagan, Prince and Princess G. Radziwill, Prince and Princess Fürstenberg, General and Mde. Albedyll, Count Herbert Bismarck, General Count Brandenburg, Colonel von Jagow, commander of the Blücher Hussars (the Prince of Wales's Regiment), Colonel Swaine and Major Swaine, Mr. Scott, First Secretary to the Embassy, Colonel Liddell, Lord Tavistock, Colonel Teesdale, and Mr. Rodd. After dinner the Prince of Wales left Berlin for Brussels, having been accompanied to the station by most of the above-named personages.

LORD SALISBURY'S IRISH POLICY.

Colonel Bignold, the leader of the Norwich Conservatives, having communicated to Lord Salisbury the firm resolve of the Conservative working men of Norwich "to support the Government in maintaining the supremacy of the law and the integrity of the empire," has received the following communication in reply from the noble Marquess:—

Foreign Office, March 24, 1887.

Dear Colonel Bignold,—I received late last night your telegram informing me of the resolution of the Conservative working men of Norwich to support the Government in maintaining the supremacy of the law and the integrity of the empire. We are much gratified to receive the assurance, for it is a time when lawlessness and rebellion are receiving a kind of support which in the history of English political parties they have never received before.—Yours very truly,

SALISBURY.

AN EMIGRANT SHIP ASHORE.

The French steamer *Sentia*, which left Marseilles on the 20th of February for New York, is ashore near Blue Point Station, fifteen miles to the east of Fire Island. She has 832 adults on board (including the Italian immigrants taken from the *Burgundia* after her collision with the *Italia* on the 17th of February). The vessel experienced severe storms during the week in which she was approaching New York. Several passengers had limbs broken by being thrown about. On Thursday the machinery was disabled, and the wind and sea were so high that Captain Rufiat cut away the masts and beached his vessel near Fire Island, in order to ensure the safety of his crew and passengers. The surf was so high yesterday that the passengers could not be landed. They have, however, been got safely ashore this morning. The vessel is expected to become a total wreck.

THE DUCHESS OF CUMBERLAND.

It seems (the Vienna correspondent of the *Times* says) that the Duchess of Cumberland, having suffered much during the last two years from articular rheumatism, was overdosed with salicite, which produced nervous depression, gradually culminating in melancholia, with morbid impulses. In the circumstances it was considered advisable that her Royal Highness should be placed amid entirely new surroundings. The last determining cause which brought the duchess's illness to a climax was the news received from St. Petersburg as to the danger which her sister the Czarina had run in the recent Nihilist attempt. In her weak state of health this intelligence caused a shock which left the duchess's medical advisers no option but to order her seclusion, with absolute rest. Professor Leidersdorf's long experience in the treatment of nervous maladies allows the hope that the duchess will after a time recover health under his care.

FOREIGN COMPETITION.

The Wolverhampton Chamber of Commerce yesterday issued their annual report. They announce that in iron and metal goods competition is far keener than ever. Manufacturers give the palm to Germany; but Belgian and American competition is also severe, and to a lesser extent French likewise. American competition is particularly serious in locks in the colonial markets, and the German lock competition is exceedingly keen in England. The strain of this ever-increasing foreign competition, added to competition at home, has now, it is declared, reduced iron and metal goods prices to an almost profitless level.

THE EXTRADITION TREATY WITH AMERICA.

The *New York Herald* publishes the text of the Phelps-Rosebery Extradition Convention, together with favourable reports from the Senate Committee of Foreign Affairs. The Committee advises the addition of criminal assaults to the list of offences for which extradition may be granted; and suggests that refugees under the clause relating to dynamite shall be surrendered only when their acts are crimes according to the law at the place "where the offence shall be committed," instead of the words "the laws of the high contracting parties." It thus appears to make a distinction between local and national laws.

SERIOUS EXPLOSION AT DARTFORD.

An explosion took place yesterday at Messrs. Seager's brass foundry, Dartford. A pot containing 200 lb. of molten brass was being lifted from a furnace when it slipped from the tongs, and, being precipitated into water, an explosion ensued. The roof of the furnace-house was lifted off, and the windows of the adjoining buildings were all shattered. The boiling metal spouted into the air and fell in a shower upon the workmen before they were able to escape. Two of the men were seriously injured, and were taken home. A member of the firm had a narrow escape.

GLASGOW AND THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC.

A plébiscite on the question of the liquor traffic was taken in Glasgow and the suburbs, the result of which was made known last night. There were 77,246 householders in favour of the people having complete control of the liquor traffic by their votes, and 8,535 against; 57,704 were in favour of entire prohibition and 19,411 against; 71,427 were favourable to a reduction in the present number of licensed houses and 9,591 against; 68,303 were opposed and 11,235 not opposed to all new licences.

FATAL POWDER-MILL EXPLOSION.

A powder-mill exploded near Wiener-Neustadt on Thursday, killing three soldiers, who were literally blown to atoms. In the neighbouring localities the explosion was taken for an earthquake, and for many miles around there was a terrible panic.

THE ATLANTIC YACHT RACE.

A vessel which has arrived at New York reports that on Saturday she sighted the yacht *Coronet* in lat. 43 deg. N., long. 43 deg. She had had her main boom carried away at the taffrail in a storm. All on board were well. Nothing was seen of the *Dauntless*.

THE PARIS MATRIMONIAL FRAUDS.

One of the most laughter-provoking cases ever disposed of by the Paris Correctional Tribunal has just terminated. The following outline of the case is given by the Paris correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph*:—Some months ago a couple of adventuresses were arrested for having worked a matrimonial agency, which was in reality an effective machinery for decoying men on the look-out for rich wives. The dupes, after having been relieved of a round sum of money, were married to a sham heiress, and then sent about their business. The principals of the agency were a bogus Baroness de Mortier, alias De la Rochelle, and her attendant cavalier, a man named Lecourtois. These two succeeded in quitting the country; and the tribunal had accordingly to deal with the sham heiress and a M^{me}. Leproux, both of whom had been conducting a tolerably prosperous matrimonial business on their own account after their principals had left France. According to the amusing evidence which came out, the pseudo-Baroness de Mortier was in the habit of sending out elaborate circulars, in which the advantages of matrimony were set forth in eloquent terms, and which explained that the marriages were arranged by honourable persons, in the most delicate manner, and with the utmost discretion, a commission of 20 per cent. on the dowry of each bride being payable by the happy Benedicts after marriage. The dupe was introduced, after having answered the questions, to a good-looking young female of presumable Anglo-American origin, whose name, according to the police reports, is Leal. The part of the maternal relative was generally played by M^{me}. Leproux, while the man Lecourtois acted as the paternal or avuncular protector of the heiress. The dupes were numerous, and included sharp Parisians as well as sluggish provincials. Among them were a metropolitan barber, a city merchant, and two stockbrokers. The provincial simpletons comprised a retired officer, a country gentleman from Touraine, a lawyer's managing clerk from Brives-la-Gaillarde, a shopman from Limoges, and another barber. The cross-examination of these persons, nearly all of whom were present at the trial, frequently threw the Bench, Bar, and general auditors into fits of laughter. M^{lle}. Leal, who was the chief criminal arrested, said that she had come to Paris from England about three years ago, in order to live with a man. She made the woman De Mortier's acquaintance through one of the latter's advertisements, and she went to the matrimonial office in the Boulevard St. Germain to meet a probable husband. After that she accepted an offer to act as De Mortier's decoy-duck. The first witness for the prosecution who was called was the little shopman from Limoges, a M. Lefèvre. He saw in an advertisement that an English heiress, having about £60,000 to her fortune, but slightly damaged, was in the market. He immediately rushed to Paris with all the money he could collect, was introduced to the divine Leal, spent nearly £200 in decorating that peerless beauty with jewels and gold, and went with her to London. He passed a happy honeymoon in the British capital, visiting the Alhambra and other places of entertainment, and living with his bride and her mother in the best hotels. After that he returned to Paris, while he had summoned his friends from Limoges, who soon informed him of the painful fact that he had been duped. Equally diverting was the evidence of M. l'Absolu, a Parisian barber, who paid £6 to be introduced to the daughter of a Spanish general in her box at the opera. The señorita, however, professed that she found M. l'Absolu deficient in educational attainments; so he was left to the tender mercies of a Marseilles maiden, who fleeced him of £40. One of the stockbrokers who had been bamboozled made a desperate dash after the dowry which had been promised to him. He married Leal in London, at a registrar's office, and entered at once into financial matters. He soon found out, however, that after having spent his money he had been fooled to the top of his bent. The country gentleman from Touraine had not only lost money on Leal, for whom he hired a box at the opera, but had long kept her supplied with game from his preserves. This extraordinary trial terminated by the condemnation of Leal to four months' imprisonment. Leproux was acquitted; while Lecourtois and the sham Baroness were condemned by default.

THE STATE OF IRELAND.

The closing day of the evictions on the Shirley estate was the most stirring of all. The sheriff and police had to go a considerable distance to carry out the remaining four evictions, and before their return to Carrickmacross a meeting was held, which was addressed by Mr. William O'Brien. He said that on that day, under the noses of Shirley's evicting army, he had planted the banner of the Plan of Campaign (cheers), and he mistook that cheer if the men before him were not men who would fight nobly, and, if necessary, die. They offered them a weapon that was more powerful than bayonets. Let them use that weapon like men, and they need never barricade their doors and expose their naked breasts to the weapons of the forces of the Crown. For the last five months all the powers of the country had been cannonading the Plan of Campaign all along the line; but they had not made so much as a rat-hole in the ramparts of the Plan of Campaign. They had tried writs, evictions, and priest hunts; and they had tried highway robbery and wilful murder; but they had not smashed a single combination nor captured a single sixpence. Dean Birmingham, P.P., presided at the meeting. The police returned to town shortly after the meeting, and were groaned.

While Constable Belton was walking about half a mile from Tralee yesterday afternoon, he was informed by the wife of a farmer named O'Donneil that a party of raiders had taken away a gun belonging to her husband. Belton started in pursuit and soon saw three men getting over a fence. As he gained on them one turned and fired; but Belton continued the chase until the men separated and eluded him round a hill. Other police afterwards took up the pursuit, and at length two of the men were captured, one having the recently discharged gun in his possession.

John Jagoe, a farmer of Inchafune, came upon a party of men drilling near Drimoleague, about ten o'clock on Thursday night. The leader, who was mounted, called upon Jagoe to give the countersign, whereupon Jagoe immediately rode off, pursued, however, for two miles.

THE INDIAN BUDGET.

The annual financial statement of the Indian Government for 1887-88 was published yesterday. The accounts for 1885-86 show a deficit of £2,801,726. The revised estimates for 1886-87 show a total revenue of £76,071,700, and expenditure £76,071,200, leaving a surplus of £500. The revenue for the year 1887-88 is estimated at £77,460,200, and the expenditure at £77,443,500, showing an estimated surplus of £16,700. The net charge in the estimates for Upper Burma, after deduction of the revenue expected from the province, amounts to £1,770,500, of which an additional sum of £344,984 is included in the estimates of 1887-88 on account of the permanent increase to the strength of the army. The net increase in the expenditure over the revenue in the two years is £1,048,900 and £1,231,300 respectively. This has been rather more than covered in each case by the transfer to loan account of equivalent amounts hitherto charged under the head of the famine insurance grant.

THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

In the House of Lords yesterday, Lord Cadogan gave notice that on Thursday next he would call attention to the recent legislation respecting land in Ireland, and present a Bill on the subject. The Lord Chancellor gave notice that on the same evening he will call attention to the subject of land transfer in this country and present a Bill. Lord Salisbury, in reply to Lord Granville said the Government proposed that the House should adjourn from Friday in next week till the Monday after Easter week. On the motion of Lord Belmore, who had charge of the measure, the order for the second reading of the Probation of First Offenders Bill was discharged. Lord Salisbury explained the provisions of a Bill which he was about to present on the subject of tithes. Its main object was to alter the present system by making the levy lie on the owner instead of on the occupier of the land. From the owner of the land the owner of the tithes would be able to recover them as a simple debt; but the county court judge would be authorized to examine as to whether the land in respect of which the tithes were payable had been unproductive for the term of an entire year. The owner of the land would be entitled to deduct 5 per cent. of the gross amount payable when he made payment to the tithe-owner. Under this Bill the owner of the land would be enabled to redeem the tithes at twenty instead of twenty-five years' purchase. The Bill was read a first time. Their lordships rose at twenty minutes to six o'clock.

PARNELLISM AND CRIME.

Mr. Philip H. Bagenal writes to the *Times* enclosing a letter dated the 22nd of last month, which has been addressed to the New York *Catholic Herald* by Mr. Frank Byrne, who, it is admitted, was secretary to the Irish Parliamentary party, and was on intimate relations with the leaders of that party, taking his instructions from them at their offices in Palace-chambers, Bridge-street, Westminster. It is now matter of history how this Frank Byrne fled the country, and after his arrival in America was feasted by Ford and Co. After denouncing all parliamentary agitation as useless, Mr. Byrne says:—

It would be well for the Irish peasantry if, instead of weakly bemoaning their unfortunate lot, they would at last rise to the level of men, and as men protect their lives and property. One evicting landlord killed in Ireland, or wherever he may be found, would do more to settle the Irish land question than all the speeches in and out of Parliament which could be delivered from this to doomsday. The evicting Irish landlord is a murderer and a robber, and should have the fate of the murderer and robber meted out to him. . . . Home Rule! Yes; Mr. Gladstone did introduce a measure which was to give a miserable farce under that name to Ireland. Home Rule without control of the military; Home Rule without control of the police; Home Rule without control of the Customs; Home Rule without any powers of self-government whatever; and even for this abortion the Irish people, or a section of them, would have been thankful. And what was the result? The English working man, the friend (?) of Ireland, defeated Mr. Gladstone at the hustings. . . . And we still go on talking. I sometimes think that there is no such thing as Irish patriotism, but that a few men are labouring to convince the world that there is. If there is any practical Irish patriotism, the time has come to show it. Let the insolent demand of De Lisle that Archbishop Croke be tried for high treason be answered at once, and in such a way that the world will no longer doubt the existence of Irish patriotism and Irish self-sacrifice. Let Salisbury learn that the Irish race in England and Ireland has forces at its disposal of a character not to be despised, and which it can and will use to England's destruction. No sentimental bosh should be allowed to tie our hands. The torch, the knife, and dynamite are weapons which are at the disposal of an unarmed and poverty-stricken nation like ours. England has taken good care to deprive us of all other weapons, and, in God's name, let us use those we have at once, without hesitation and without mercy. If we fail to thus act we are unworthy of freedom, are only filling our allotted place in the world's great economic system as contented slaves, and should hold our peace for ever.

Mr. Bagenal adds the following comment:—"Such, then, are the words and sentiments of Mr. Parnell's quondam private secretary, now freed from the obligation of concealing his opinions. O'Donovan Rossa, in his paper, the *United Irishman*, of the 12th of March, quotes the above letter with approval, and describes the writer as 'one of the Invincible Irishmen who had to go on the run a few years ago because some of the English garrison were slain in Ireland.'"

THE COLOURS OF THE UNIVERSITY CREWS.

In an article on the first University Boat Race the *Times* gives the following account of the origin of the colours worn by the rival crews:—The Oxonians of 1829 wore black straw hats with blue ribands, white jerseys with broad dark-blue stripes, and white canvas trousers. These vestments were the joint device of Wordsworth and Garnier, and were based upon the blue Christ Church uniform, there being four Christ Church men rowing in the boat. Thus the dark blue was not, as is sometimes asserted, taken from the groundwork of the university arms. The Cambridge eight were directed to wear white linen shirts, with a pink necktie, but two or three practical spirits among them, not foreseeing the days rapidly approaching when the possession of a piece of 'varsity riband' was to be a possession above the price of all pearls and rubies, declared that the pink was a useless piece of frippery; and others tied it round their waists as a sash; so that in respect of equipment there was no great uniformity. But why pink? The question of uniform, according to Dean Merivale, was deemed of so little importance that it only arose at the last moment. Here, again, out of the eight oarsmen, there were three from Trinity, and three from St. John's, which last college had earned great fame in aquatic circles with its Lady Margaret club. Now the jersey of the Lady Margaret men was, as it is to this day, striped with narrow pink stripes, and this jersey had itself been copied from the Balliol boating jersey of that time. Dean Merivale says, "Our captain, Snow, being himself of St. John's, hinted that the Johnian uniform should be adopted for the University race. The Trinity men demurred, the other two were nowhere; so by way of compromise the ordinary shirt was put in requisition, and the crew agreed to wear the pink tie in compliment to the captain." It was not until 1836 (when the next Inter-University Race was rowed) that light blue was adopted, the temporary device of pink having apparently been forgotten. There is a tale that in 1836 the Cantabs were on the point of pushing off from Searle's at Westminster, when somebody remarked that the boat had no colour in the bow. One person suggested one colour, and another another. At the last moment a friend of the crew ran over to a haberdasher's close by and asked for a piece of Eton blue riband or silk, which was thereupon sported. But from the testimony of Mr. Granville, the Cambridge stroke in 1836, it would seem that the Cantab light blue ties which were undoubtedly worn in that year were not rags torn haphazard from the piece, for he preserved his colours religiously for upwards of forty years. By 1842 the colours of both Universities (so far as the jerseys were concerned) had been settled; for in the race of that year the Oxonians wore white jerseys of Indian gauze, trimmed with dark blue, and the Cantabs similar jerseys, trimmed with light blue. The Oxford dark blue, however, became darker and darker, probably out of the desire for contrast.

THE WEEKLY PAPERS.

MR. GLADSTONE'S NEW CRONIES.

The *Saturday Review* considers it well that there should have been an all-night sitting of the House of Commons, and even better that it should have been illustrated by such incidents as the suggestion on the part of one Irish member that his opponents were drunk and the promise of another to black one of those opponents' eyes. Mr. Gladstone's new cronies cannot show themselves too clearly in their truest and choicest colours; nor can the cronies of those cronies—Mr. Gladstone and his immediate followers themselves—make too evident the difference between their notions of the conduct befitting a parliamentary Opposition and the notions which were entertained by the Conservatives. That the spectacle will have any effect on thoroughgoing Gladstonians is no doubt improbable; but it should have some on that very considerable class of weak-kneed Liberal-Unionists who brought about the results of the Liverpool and Burnley elections out of sheer reluctance to take part either with God or with the enemies of God.

The *Spectator* observes that no one can look at the history of the Parnellite party and then observe Mr. Gladstone's attitude of reverence for them as the constitutional representatives of the Irish people, without a sense of utter shame and astonishment that such a mind as his can worship such an idol as that. The Government may fail; but they are engaged in the noblest crusade for restoring freedom, order, and justice in Ireland, and for resisting the decomposition of the United Kingdom, of which this generation has seen the commencement.

INSULT AND WILFUL DISORDER IN THE COMMONS.

The *Economist* suggests an improvement in the procedure of the House of Commons outside the proposed new rules. The House should protect itself much more stringently, both from insult and from wilful disorder. One method of doing this has already been suggested by Mr. Chaplin, who proposes to put all offending members to silence for periods increasing with the repetition of the offence; and this, if adopted, may prove sufficient. It will be, however, at the close of a session a somewhat feeble remedy; and the House might do well to consider whether a revival of the old discipline might not be expedient. If a member named by the Speaker for insult or disorder, after due warning, were forbidden the precincts of the House until he had paid somewhat heavy fees, the offenders would be but few. They are seldom rich men, and, if they are, the dislike to being deprived of money without any *quid pro quo* extends in all its fulness to rich men. Such a rule would have an almost magical effect in restoring the disorderly to a sense of decorum, and the House itself would watch carefully that the Speaker did not misuse his power. No rules can wholly alter an unfortunate situation of parties, or wholly restrain the malignity of faction; but with such a rule added to the closure, we might expect that business would advance, and that the House would observe a decency essential to its power over the people as well as to its self-respect.

THE GRAND OBSTRUCTIONIST.

The *Saturday Review* is of opinion that Mr. Gladstone considers the most important part of his speech on Thursday not the argumentative part. It was the "broad hints" of its commencement, and the open menaces of its conclusion. It was its significant references to the "twenty nights" which it took to discuss the Bill for the suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act, "though it consisted of only a single clause;" it was the sinister warning to the Government that, if they employed the closure rule to overbear even the most obstinate obstruction, they would be "lajing on our necks a yoke which may not perhaps be patiently borne;" it was, above all, the unashamed threat of the author of two of the most stringent Coercion Acts ever passed for Ireland, that he would "at each step oppose the 'unhappy policy' of restoring the authority of law in that country, and pursue such opposition down to the 'last stage of that ill-omened measure.'" These are the passages in Mr. Gladstone's speech which he meant to be really emphatic, and to which indeed he gave all the emphasis of a lowered and theatrically solemn tone; and the noisy cheer which surged up from the sworn enemies of the Imperial Parliament below the gangway showed plainly enough that they prized these disgraceful utterances at much more than the value of their leader's subtlest sophisms or most elaborate periods. The effusive welcome which they gave to the distinguished ally who has just joined them in their deadliest attack on the Assembly in which he has passed all his life, and to which he owes all his fame, attests their high estimate of its practical and, so to say, strategic worth.

The *Spectator* believes that with such a record as the story of Monday night and Tuesday morning before it, the country will be disposed not only to support Mr. W. H. Smith in his use of the closure; but to urge him on to use it steadily and frequently, though always with the moderation and fairness by which his whole conduct as leader of the House has hitherto been characterized. Discussions on "Home, Sweet Home," on the foals in the stud at Hampton Court, on the "waning popularity" of the royal family, and on the over-payment of Cabinet Ministers whose health is crushed by the deliberate rowdiness of the House of Commons, and a hundred such themes as these, while the services are waiting for their hardly earned salaries, and Ireland is being taught to love plunder and injustice by the very men who set the British Legislature at defiance—are burlesques of legislation of which the country only needs to appreciate the discredit, in order to suppress them with a peremptory hand.

The *John Bull* says that Mr. Gladstone outdid himself in the sheer impudence of his assertion that the aim of the Plan of Campaign is merely the reduction of rent, not its abolition. No one knows better than Mr. Gladstone that the strength of the conspiracy in Ireland is the hope of the people that they will get the land for nothing. And the one man who is responsible for this frightful mischief is the state man who has, on the one hand, whetted the popular appetite for plunder by frequent slices of the landlord's property; and, on the other, encouraged the forces of lawlessness by concessions wrung from him by deeds of violence.

MR. GOSCHEN'S TONE.

The *Spectator* commends the cheerful tone of Mr. Goschen's speech. A little more resignation, it says, a little more confidence in ourselves as well as in Providence, a little more remembrance that if pleasure is fleeting so is trouble, and half the gloom of the situation would roll itself away. Mr. Goschen at the Mansion House set us all an example which, if followed, duty would be no worse done, while the decade would be less spoiled than it is by the momentary hypochondria not of the people but of the class that guides it.

MR. GLADSTONE AND GENERAL BULLER'S EVIDENCE.

The *Economist* does not see how General Buller's evidence before Lord Cowper's Commission helps Mr. Gladstone. The evidence, no doubt, tells strongly in favour of a reform of the law as regards eviction. But in this direction the Government is going to take action. That the evidence can fairly be used to show that a law not to create new offences, but to make it possible to punish what every one admits are crimes, it is idle to contend. The Gladstonian party has not yet quite arrived at the point of arguing that murder and outrage, when they take place in Ireland, should not

be punished if only there are good political reasons in favour of the immunity of their perpetrators. And until they arrive at this condition of mind the *Economist* does not see that the construction they put on Sir Redvers Buller's evidence will help them very much.

THE FORTHCOMING BUDGET.

The *Economist* hopes that Mr. Goschen's financial proposals will not turn out so extremely commonplace as he would lead us to expect; and as regards his plea of want of time, it does not rest with the Chancellor of the Exchequer alone to provoke controversy. It would not be at all surprising if some of the Irish members were to provoke the controversy which Mr. Goschen is so anxious to avoid by complaining that the national beverage of Ireland is unduly taxed in comparison with that of England.

THE MORNING PAPERS.

THE SUCCESS OF THE URGENCY MOTION.

The *Standard* affects no complacency at the success of the urgency motion, and it refuses to render anything in the shape of gratitude to the Opposition. After four nights' debate on a mere question of technical procedure, an opening has been won for the production of the measure itself. Urgency ought to have been granted the moment it was asked. Mr. Gladstone has chosen to waste the time of the House in an obstructive demonstration, and he promises us that these tactics will be repeated throughout all the stages of the Government Bill. No doubt, in face of this compact with Mr. Parnell, Ministers have a difficult task before them; but they need not feel disheartened. Sir William Harcourt affects to believe that the Bill is already as good as dead. The Government by their resolute action should speedily dissipate this idea. They have not only a large majority in the House but the great mass of public opinion to support them.

The *Freeman's Journal* asserts that an analysis of last night's division proves that the Government have divided their Liberal supporters and are facing that serious factor in parliamentary combinations—disintegrating influence.

The *Dublin Express* regards the Coercion Act as as good as passed, and believes that, as Parliament adheres firmly to the Government, the nation will do so too.

The *Irish Times* says that Sir William Harcourt's clumsy rhetoric strikes his own side hard. The Opposition have little effective help from him. The House seems as tired as the country is of his hardfaced inconsistency.

THE AMENDMENT OF THE CRIMINAL LAW IN IRELAND.

The *Times* believes that not an honest man in Ireland will ever discover from his personal experience whether the criminal law has been amended or not. The changes sought by the Government will make it harder for ruffians to murder and ruin their neighbours with impunity, but they will touch no living soul except conspirators and murderers and outrage-mongers. Sir Henry James did not overstate the case in the least when he described the present opposition to the amendment of the criminal law as instigated by the National League and supported by its friends in the House of Commons in order to secure the impunity of criminals.

THE CRITICISM OF MR. GLADSTONE'S "GREAT SPEECH."

The *Daily News* remarks that Mr. Gladstone's "great speech"—delivered under conditions of obvious physical weariness, but calm, dignified, and absolutely conclusive—has, to judge from certain utterances in the *Disunionist* press yesterday, driven some of his opponents altogether beyond the bounds of reason. Instead of trying to prove that the state of Ireland requires penal legislation, as it did in 1881, they simply abuse Mr. Gladstone in language which Mr. William O'Brien might envy.

MR. GLADSTONE'S ATTITUDE.

The *Daily Telegraph* says that if Mr. Gladstone really has at heart the redress of those grievances of the Irish tenant on which he can discourse so eloquently when it suits him, he will lose no time in withdrawing from the ill-considered and unseemly alliance which he has entered into with the party of obstruction. Should he decline to do so, he will expose himself to the just suspicion that he cares more for his own nostrum than for the relief of the patient, and that he is obstinately resolved to resist the application of any other remedy save that which the nation has so decisively refused him leave to administer.

HUNTING APPOINTMENTS FOR NEXT WEEK.

- STAGHOUNDS.**
HER MAJESTY'S.—Tuesday, Beaconsfield; Friday, Holyport Green—11.45.
MID KENT.—Saturday (March 26), Park Gate, Leeds; Wednesday, Wrotham; Saturday, Peshurst Village—12 (for Foxbush Harriers to hunt deer).
NEW FOREST.—Monday, Bushy Bratley; Thursday, Vinney Ridge—12.
ROTHSCHILD'S LORD.—Monday, Manor House, Wingrave; Thursday, Berryfield Gate—11.30.
- FOXHOUNDS.**
BEAUFORT'S DUKE OF.—Monday, Easton Grey; 12; Tuesday, White Hart, Pucklechurch; Wednesday, Highway Common; Friday, Monument; Saturday, Upper Combe—12.
BERKELEY, OLD.—Monday, Harefield; Thursday, Grove Mill; Saturday, Pheasant, Chalfont—12.
BERKSHIRE, OLD.—Monday, Windmill House; Wednesday, Sunningwell; Friday, East Hanney—12.
CAMBRIDGESHIRE.—Monday, Morehanger; Friday, Great Staughton (not unless rain falls)—12.
COTSWOLD.—Monday, Dixon Wood; Wednesday, Air Balloon; Saturday, Rendcomb Lodge—12.
COTSWOLD, NORTH.—Tuesday, Guiting Wood; Thursday, Dumbleton; Saturday, Campden.
COTTESMORE.—Tuesday, Whadboro Cross Roads; Wednesday, Castle Bytham; Friday, Burley-on-the-Hill; Saturday, Beaumont Chase—12.
CRAVEN.—Monday, Stype; Wednesday, Three Legged Cross; Saturday, Catmore Farm—11.30.
CRAWLEY AND HORSHAM.—Monday, Cowfold—11; Tuesday, Washington—11.30; Friday, Arundel; Saturday, Bines Green—12.
CUNARD'S, SIR B.—Tuesday, Foxton; Wednesday, Slawston—12.
ESSEX AND SUFFOLK.—Monday, Thorpe Street; Friday, Claydon—12.
GARTH'S, MR.—Monday, Birches Green; Wednesday, Bramshill; Friday, Beacon Hill; Saturday, Thorpe Place—12.
GRAFTON.—Monday, Preston Capes; Friday, Weston; Saturday, Hartwell—12.
H. H.—Monday, Temple; Tuesday, Tichborne Down; Thursday, Bighton Village; Saturday, New Inn, Lasham—12.
- HERTFORDSHIRE.**—Monday, The Kennels—12; Wednesday, Warden Hills; Friday, Tewin Water—12.
HEYTHROP.—Monday, Chapel House; Wednesday, Burford; Friday, Moreton-in-Marsh; Saturday, Bigbrook—12.
HURLEY.—Monday, Dog and Crook; Friday, Rack and Manger—11.30.
ISLE OF WIGHT.—Monday, Whitcombe Cross; Thursday, Shalcombe—12.
KENT, EAST.—Monday, Whelfield; Wednesday, Horton Park; Friday, Bosingham Street; Saturday, The Halfway House—12.
KENT, WEST.—Monday, Leigh and Flint House; Tuesday, Wrotham Heath; Thursday, Meopham Station; Friday, Four Elms Hill; Saturday, Dunstall Priory (breakfast)—10.45.
NORFOLK, WEST.—Monday, Stradsett Foldgate; Wednesday, The Kennels—11.30 (to finish the season).
OAKLEY.—Monday, Cranfield; Tuesday, Odell; Thursday, Milton Mill; Saturday, Swineshead—11.30.
OXON, SOUTH.—Monday, Nuneham; Friday, Menmarsh Guide Post (to finish the season).
PYCHLEY (WOODLAND).—Monday, Pipewell Hall; Thursday, Grafton Underwood; Saturday, Brigstock—12.
QUORN.—Tuesday, The Oaks Church; Thursday, Syston Station; Friday, Abe Kettleby; Saturday, Hathern Turn—12.
SOUTHDOWN.—Tuesday, Ringles Cross; Wednesday, Laughton Pound; Friday, Toddington; Saturday, King's Head, Chalfont—12.
SURREY UNION.—Tuesday, Brockham Green; Saturday, Newlands Corner—12.
SUSSEX, EAST.—Tuesday, Broad Oak, Brede; Thursday, Lunsford's Cross; Saturday, Rushlake Green—11.30.
TEDWORTH.—Tuesday, Puthall Gate; Thursday, Nag's Head, Martin; Saturday, Lockerley Hall—12.
TICKHAM.—Monday, Squirrels, Stockbury; Thursday, The Kennels; Saturday, Broad Street—10.30.
VINE.—Tuesday, Pine Apple, Brimpton; Thursday, Paul's Wood; Saturday, West Heath—10.45.
- HARRIERS.**
BERKSHIRE VALE.—Tuesday, Chilton Pond; Thursday, Ewelme; Saturday, Sutton Corney (to finish the season)—12.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

SONS.
BARKER, wife of Rev. Rowland V., M.A., at St. Mark's Vicarage, Lakenham, Norwich, March 22.
BENDALL, wife of Mr. Herbert, M.A., at Broadgreen, near Liverpool, March 22 (prematurely).
CARDINAL, Mrs. Durrant E., at Holly Court, Ardleigh, Essex, March 21.
MULLIN, wife of James, M.A., M.D., at Ruthingardens, Cardiff, March 18.
REED, Mrs. A. Lincoln, of Tivoli Lodge, Norwood, at Maidene Park, Monmouthshire, March 17.

MARRIAGES.

DRAKE-RICHMOND.—Mr. H. Harcourt Drake, of Burnside, Sioux City, Iowa, U.S., to Charlotte, daughter of Rev. William Richmond, Rector of St. James's, Sioux City, Iowa, Feb. 21.
KAYESS-FLEMING.—At St. Stephen's, South Dulwich, Walter, son of the late Mr. James Kayess, of Streatham, to Mary G., daughter of Rev. S. H. Fleming, of Harwood Vicarage, Bolton, March 22.
MENDL-HALFORD.—At the New West-end Synagogue, London, Marco, son of Consul L. Mendl, of Galatz, Roumania, to Gertrude M., daughter of Mr. Frederick Halford, of Cleveland-gardens, Hyde Park, March 22.
NELSON-NELSON.—At St. Margaret's, Salmonby, Lincolnshire, Reginald A. Nelson, B.A., LL.B., Barrister-at-Law, Inner Temple, son of Mr. Albert O. Nelson, of Embury Grove, Thames Ditton, to Amy M., daughter of Mr. Arthur Nelson, of Salmonby, March 23.

DEATHS.

BEDDINGTON, George S., son of Mr. S. H., at Hyde Park-square, aged 21, March 23.
BIRCH, Captain Thomas F., R.N., at Park House, near Reading, aged 82, March 24.
BURNARD, Florence, daughter of Mr. Lewis W., of Percy House, Eltham, at Cannes, aged 20, March 22.
CAMERON, Mr. Hugh T., at Herne-hill, aged 57, March 20.
COLLINGS, Louisa E., widow of Rev. W. T., Seigneur of Sark, at Ashley House, Folkestone, aged 67, March 24.
COLLINS, Rev. W. Lucas, Rector of Lowick-cum-Siltopton and Honorary Canon of Peterborough, at Lowick Rectory, Thrapston, aged 70, March 24.
DENNEY, Mr. Joseph, of Great Coggeshall, Essex, aged 80, March 22.
GILLINGWATER, Mr. William, at Highbury New Park, aged 65, March 23.
HILL, William J., Major and Hon. Lieut.-Col. and V.B.P.A. Somersetshire Light Infantry, at Easton House, Langport, Somerset, aged 66, Feb. 28.
JOHNSON, Mr. George H., of Addison-crescent, Kensington, aged 79, March 22.
JOHNSTON, William, son of the late Mr. James, of Halifax, Yorkshire, at Farnham-crescent, Lavender-hill, aged 31, March 21.

STIRLING-COOKSON, wife of Mr. C. L., of Houndwood and Renton, at Morningside-place, Edinburgh, March 24.

DAUGHTERS.

HEDGES, wife of Mr. G. A. M., of Colombo, at Pencroft, Dartford, March 24.
MAXWELL, wife of Captain H. St. P., Bengal Staff Corps, at Fernside, Reigate, March 23.
RALLI, Mrs. A. J. C., at Audley-square, W., March 24.

PRESTON-SPENCER.—At the Roman Catholic Church, Havant, Arthur J., son of the Hon. Thomas Preston, to Ina, daughter of the late Mr. Henry Spencer, of Woodlands, Havant, Hants, March 22.

SMITH-BLAND.—At Bombay, Mr. R. Wanless Smith, 2nd Battalion Scottish Rifles, son of Mr. E. J. Smith, of Clonard, county Dublin, to Alice P., daughter of Mr. F. C. Bland, of Derriquin Castle, county Kerry, Ireland, March 21.

TUFNELL-CADELL.—At St. Bartholomew's, Sydenham, Lieutenant Lionel G. Tufnell, R.N., son of Mr. Thomas R. Tufnell, to Clara E., daughter of Mr. Thomas Cadell, of Sydney, N.S.W., March 24.

WHITEHEAD-DOKE.—At St. Mary's, Wimbledon, Alfred, son of Mr. James Whitehead, of Brindle Lodge, Lancashire, to Laura, daughter of Mr. William W. Doke, of Curriehill, Wimbledon Park, March 24.

MATHEW, Theobald M., late Deputy Surgeon-General H.M. Indian Army, at Bruges, aged 53, March 22.

MCGG, Elizabeth V., widow of Rev. Arthur, of Chilcompton, at Harley-place, Clifton, aged 72, March 24.

MURPHY, Sophia H., at Wellingborough, aged 72, March 18.

PARTRIDGE, Mr. Simeon, of The Limes, Darlaston, aged 67, March 24.

PEARSON, Miss Frances, at Warwick-road, Maidenhill, W., aged 76, March 24.

RUTHERFORD, Surgeon-General William, M.D., C.B., Honorary Physician to the Queen, at Vauxhall Bridge-road, S.W., aged 71, March 24.

STEVENS, Mr. William, of Springfield, Tulsa-hill, aged 80, March 24.

TEMPER, Emma, wife of Mr. F. B., late of Kandy, Ceylon, at Falmouth, March 22.

TURNER, Mr. John, formerly of Gravetye, Sussex, at Chesham, aged 92, March 18.

TYLER, Charlotte, widow of Mr. William, of Upper Tulsa-hill, at Edge Hill, Wimbledon, aged 76, March 21.

WARING, Frances M., widow of Mr. Francis, at Lyme Regis, Dorsetshire, aged 79, March 22.

WARNER, Mr. Charles W., C.B., at Port of Spain, Trinidad, aged 81, Feb. 26.

PREACHERS IN LONDON TO-MORROW.

ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL.—Morning, 10.30, Prebendary Wilson; afternoon, 3.15, Canon Gregory; evening, 7.0, Rev. Dr. Warre.
WESTMINSTER ABBEY.—Morning, 10.0, Rev. T. Norman Rowell; afternoon, 3.0, Canon Rowell; evening, 7.0, Rev. H. Montagu Villiers.
ST. MARGARET'S, Westminster.—Morning, 11.0, Archdeacon Farrar; evening, 7.0, Rev. R. A. Bullen.
CHAPEL ROYAL, WHITEHALL.—Morning, 11.0, the Dean of Chichester; afternoon, 3.0, Rev. H. R. Wakefield.
CHAPEL ROYAL, ST. JAMES'S.—Noon, the Bishop of Rochester.
CHAPEL ROYAL, SAVOY.—Morning, 11.30, Rev. Henry White; evening, 7.0, Rev. Dr. Stokoe.
TEMPLE CHURCH.—Morning, 11.0, Rev. Dr. Vaughan; afternoon, 3.0, Rev. Dr. Ainger.
LINCOLN'S INN CHAPEL.—Morning, 11.0, Rev. Dr. Wace; afternoon, 3.0, Rev. C. J. Ball.
GRAY'S INN CHAPEL.—Morning, 11.30, Rev. Dr. Stokoe.
ROLLS CHAPEL, Chancery-lane.—Morning, 11.0, Rev. John Congreve.
ST. GEORGE'S CHAPEL, Albemarle-street.—Morning, 11.0, Rev. Francis Palmer.
ST. ANDREW'S, Ashley-place.—Morning, 11.0, and evening, 7.0, Rev. A. Gerald Bowman.
BERKELEY CHAPEL, Mayfair.—Morning, 11.30, and afternoon, 3.30 (Children's Service), Rev. T. Teignmouth Shore.
ST. PHILIP'S, Regent-street, Waterloo-place.—Morning, 11.15, Rev. Harry Jones; afternoon, 4.0, Lecture, "Peace and War: International Arbitration," Canon Fremantle; evening, 7.0, Rev. E. C. Hawkins.
ST. AGNES'S, Kensington Park.—Morning, 11.0, P. E. Sanderson; evening, 7.0, Rev. J. P. Waldo.
ST. LAWRENCE JEWRY, Gresham-street.—Morning, 11.45, Canon Fremantle; evening, 7.0, Prebendary Baker.
ST. NICHOLAS COLE ABBEY, Queen Victoria-street.—Morning, 11.15, Rev. T. Hancock; afternoon, 3.45, Rev. Stewart D. Headlam, on "Social Reconstruction," evening, 7.0, Rev. H. C. Shuttleworth, on "Worldliness."
ST. BRIDE'S, Fleet-street.—Morning, 11.0, Rev. E. C. Hawkins; evening, 7.0, Rev. Harry Jones.
ST. ANDREW'S, Holborn.—Morning, 11.0, Rev. B. W. Maturin; evening, 7.0, Rev. J. W. Shepard.
ALL HALLOWS' Barking, E.C..—Morning, 11.0, Rev. G. J. Foster; afternoon, 4.0, Rev. W. Bellars; evening, 6.30, Rev. A. J. Mason.
ST. GEORGE'S, Botolph-lane.—Morning, 11.15, Rev. A. Gurney; evening, 7.0, Rev. C. R. Gordon.

ST. GILES-IN-THE-FIELDS.—Afternoon, 3.30, Rev. E. A. Stuart (for men only).
FOUNDLING CHAPEL.—Morning, 11.0, Rev. Dr. Momerie.
CURZON CHAPEL, Mayfair.—Morning, 11.30, and evening, 7.0, Rev. Dr. Ker Gray; afternoon, 4.0, Rev. T. Evans.
PRO-CATHEDRAL, Kensington.—Morning, 11.0, Rev. C. Harrington Moore; evening, 7.0, Rev. James Lawless.
ST. MARY'S, Moorfields.—Morning, 11.0, Rev. L. G. Vere.
UNION CHAPEL, Islington.—Morning, 11.0, Rev. J. T. Wigner; afternoon, 3.30, Mr. G. B. Eile; evening, 6.30, Rev. Dr. Allen.
METROPOLITAN TABERNACLE, Newington Butts.—Morning, 11.0, and evening, 6.30, Rev. C. H. Spurgeon.
THE CITY TEMPLE, Holborn Viaduct.—Morning, 11.0, and evening, 7.0, Rev. Dr. Joseph Parker.
BLOOMSBURY CHAPEL, Bloomsbury-street.—Morning, 11.0, and evening, 7.0, Rev. James Baillie.
BELGRAVE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, Halkin-street.—West, Belgrave-square. —Morning, 11.0, Rev. Adolph Saphir; evening, 7.0, Rev. Hugh Shearer.
KENSINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, Allen-street.—Morning, 11.0, Rev. Charles Moinet; evening, 7.0, Mr. George Clark.
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ENGLAND, Kensington Park-road, Notting-hill.—Morning, 11.0, and evening, 7.0, Rev. Dr. H. Sinclair Paterson.
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ST. COLUMBA'S (Church of Scotland), Pont-street, Belgravia.—Morning, 11.0, Rev. Donald Macleod; evening, 7.0, Rev. W. P. Paterson.
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 As welcome as the flowers in May,
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 Which greets us as we go along;
 As welcome as the flower's perfume,
 That scents the air in sweet, sweet June,
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 To Headache it gives certain ease;
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 And cures it both in Youth and Age;
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 And give both confidence and rest;
 Thirst it will at once allay,
 And what's the best in every way?
WHY, ENO'S FAMOUS FRUIT SALT!

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 Perhaps you've ate or drank too much;
 It will restore like magic touch.
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 What effects a perfect cure?
WHY, ENO'S FAMOUS FRUIT SALT!

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 At any time a dainty draught,
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Applications will be received at the London and Westminster Bank, 41, Lothbury, London, E.C. The subscription-list will be opened on Monday, 28th March inst., may be closed at any time thereafter, and will be closed at the latest, on Thursday evening, 31st March, at 4 P.M.

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Payable—5s. per share on application; £1 per share on allotment; £1 5s. per share the 15th May; £1 5s. per share the 15th July; and the balance at two months' notice if required. The Company have entered into an agreement to sell the Patent and Patent Rights for France, for £100,000, and have received the cash deposit.

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* Will join the Board after completion of the purchase.

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PROSPECTUS.

This Company is formed for the purpose of acquiring the English and the eighteen Colonial and foreign patents enumerated herein for gas lighting by incandescence, invented by Dr. Carl Auer von Welsbach, of Vienna, and for working or selling the same.

The Welsbach Incandescent Light is hardly distinguishable from, and quite equal to, the Incandescent Light produced by electricity, and its application involves no outlay beyond the cost of the burners.

The salient features of the invention are as follow:—

- (a) Burners consuming about two and one-third cubic feet of gas per hour give a steady, bright, incandescent light, equal to the average twenty-candle Swan Electric Lamps.
- (b) The gas consumed by this system gives off no free carbon, is perfectly smokeless, and consequently in no way injurious to pictures, decorations, or furniture.
- (c) The burners can be fixed to any existing gas-fittings at little or no expense.
- (d) There is a saving by this system, equal to from 50 to 75 per cent. of the gas consumed by ordinary gas-burners.
- (e) The Incandescent light can be supplied either yellow or pure white.

Vide report by Mr. Conrad W. Cooke, M.S.T.E. & E., &c., the well-known Engineer, enclosed herewith.

The value of the Welsbach Incandescent system has now been proved, both practically and commercially, having been for some time past in use in Vienna, Berlin, and other cities, and is considered the greatest discovery made in gas-lighting since gas was first introduced for illuminating purposes.

In Austria, where the Electric Light has been extensively adopted, the Government, after an exhaustive inquiry into the merits of the invention, ordered the post-offices in Vienna to be lighted with the Welsbach Light, which has also been supplied to a large number of the principal residences and business establishments of the capital.

The Directors are informed the sales in Vienna at present exceed five hundred per day, and produce a net profit of over five shillings per light.

The following certificate, which can be seen at the offices of the Company, has been received by Dr. Auer von Welsbach from the Director of the Vienna (Landskronengasse) Post Office, which proves the economical results in practice obtained by this system of gas-lighting:—

"I have the pleasure of certifying to you that we are satisfied with your light, which effects a saving of about 50 per cent."

"Yours obediently,"

(Signed) A. SUFFANTSCHITZ.

"Certified 14th December, 1886."

Mr. Conrad W. Cooke, who has had the light under his constant observation for the past fifteen months, certifies as follows:—

"2, Victoria-mansions, Victoria-street, London, S.W., March 7, 1887."

"I hereby certify that I have examined several of the Welsbach lamps recently received from Vienna, and find that, with a consumption of gas of about 2-3 cubic feet per hour, they give an average illumination of 19 candles, thus showing an efficiency of over eight candles per cubic foot of gas consumed."

"These figures indicate a saving of gas of about 60 per cent. over the best forms of Argand burners, and of about 75 per cent. over the best nipple burners usually fitted on to chandeliers and house-fittings." (Signed) CONRAD W. COOKE.

The light has also been under examination by Dr. William Wallace, F.R.S.E., Public Analyst,

and Gas Examiner for the City of Glasgow, who certifies as follows:—

"Glasgow, 16th March, 1887."

"I have tested several of the Welsbach Incandescent Gas Lamps with Glasgow gas, and have found them to give an average of 9.2 candles per cubic foot of gas consumed."

(Signed) WILLIAM WALLACE."

The extent and importance of gas-lighting is demonstrated by the fact that the capital of the three principal companies supplying London, amounts to £13,212,395, and has a present market value of £28,380,000.

The Welsbach Light has been most successfully installed in Paris on behalf of this Company, and will be supplied throughout the United Kingdom and in the countries for which the patents have been acquired, under the direction of the inventor and a competent staff of assistants.

The Patents for the United Kingdom have been acquired for £67,500, payable as to £22,500 in cash by instalments, and the balance in fully paid shares.

The patents and patent rights already granted, the right to the patents applied for, and all improvements which the inventor may discover in his system of incandescent gas lighting, during a period of fourteen years from the 28th February, 1887, have been acquired by the Company for the following countries—viz:—

Belgium	Portugal
Cape of Good Hope	Queensland
Denmark	Russia and Finland
France	South Australia
India	Spain
Italy	Sweden
Norway	Tasmania
New South Wales	Victoria.
New Zealand	

for the total sum of £300,000; payable as to £60,000 in cash by instalments, and the balance either wholly in shares, or partly in shares, and partly in cash, at the option of the Directors, thus securing ample working capital for the Company. Under the contract relating to these countries the Vendors have covenanted that the patents are valid and subsisting, and that they will do all acts requisite to give the Company the full benefit of the invention, and all improvements, extensions, or renewals of the same, and have agreed that no part of the purchase consideration, except the deposit, shall be paid to them until the patents have been duly assigned to the Company.

The directors have entered into an agreement for the sale of the patent for France for £100,000, and it is their intention to sell the patents for the other above-named countries except Great Britain, and capitalists are negotiating for acquiring several of these at prices which, it is anticipated, will more than recoup the entire amount of the purchase-money.

Assuming that only fifteen hundred lights per diem will be required for home demand, at a profit of five shillings per light, the sum at present realized in Vienna, a net profit of £127,000 per annum would accrue.

Dr. Carl Auer von Welsbach has undertaken to act as Consulting Chemist and Engineer to the Company for a period of fourteen years, without making any charge therefor, except his travelling expenses, when engaged on the Company's business. The Directors have secured the co-operation of Mr. James Maclear, F.C.S., F.I.C., the well-known chemical expert and engineer, who has joined the Board, and, having made a special study of this subject, will devote a considerable portion of his time to the Company's business as one of their technical advisers.

The following Contracts have been entered into:—

An agreement, dated the 28th day of February, 1887, between Dr. Carl Auer von Welsbach and Frederick de la Fontaine Williams of the one part, and the Company of the other part, being the contract for acquiring the foreign and colonial patents above enumerated by the Company.

An Agreement, dated the 28th day of February, 1887, between the Welsbach Incandescence Company (Limited), of the one part, and the Company of the other part, being the contract for acquiring the patent and patent rights for the United Kingdom by the Company.

An agreement dated the 22nd day of March, 1887, between the Company of the one part, and Mons. Joseph Thomas de Franco (on behalf of himself and associates) of the other part, being the contract for the sale of the patent, and patent rights for France.

Various trade contracts and other agreements have from time to time been entered into by the said Dr. Carl Auer von Welsbach, the said Frederick de la Fontaine Williams, and the said Welsbach Incandescence Light Company, Limited, in connection with the development of the invention, the obtaining of patents, and otherwise relating to the business. Applicants for shares shall be deemed to have notice of the same, and will be required, notwithstanding the provisions of the 38th section of the Companies Act, 1867, to waive the specification in this Prospectus of the dates thereof, the names of the parties thereto, and the benefit of the provisions of the said section.

Applications for shares should be made on the form accompanying the Prospectus, and sent with the deposit direct to the Company's Bankers. In every case where no allotment is made, the deposit will be returned to the applicant in full, and when the number of shares allotted is less than the number applied for, the surplus will be credited in reduction of the further amount payable on the shares allotted.

Copies of the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company, and of the above-mentioned three Agreements, can be inspected at the offices of the Solicitors.

Prospectuses and Forms of Application can be obtained from

The London and Westminster Bank, Limited, 41, Lothbury, London, E.C.
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Or from the Secretary, at the offices of the Company, 4A, Upper Thames-street, London, E.C.

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Applications for the above can be made at the offices of the Company, 13, Moorgate-street, E.C.

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OFFICES.—46, Queen Victoria-street, E.C.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the LIST of APPLICATIONS for SHARES in the above will CLOSE on MONDAY, the 28th inst., for town, and the following day for the country.

By Order.

46, Queen Victoria-street, March 26, 1887.

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Funds.....£3,378,000
Annual Income.....£351,000
Profits divided at Quinquennial Bonus, 1886.....£486,000

MATTHEW HODGSON, Secretary.

ATLAS ASSURANCE COMPANY.

Established 1803. Issues FIRE, LIFE, and ACCIDENT POLICIES.—West-end Office: 4, Pall-Mall, East. Chief Office: 92, Cheapside.

SAMUEL J. PIPKIN, Secretary.

NORTHERN ASSURANCE COMPANY.

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

INCOME AND FUNDS (1885).
Fire Premiums.....£577,000 | Life Premiums.....£191,000
Interest.....£112,000
Accumulated Funds.....£3,134,000

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WILLIAM J. VIAN, Secretary.

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Capital, £2,000,000. Subscribed and paid up, £500,000.

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The Bank Buys and Sells Bills of Exchange, makes Telegraphic Transfers, issues Letters of Credit and Circular Notes available throughout the world, forwards Bills for Collection, undertakes the Purchase and Sale of Securities, holds them for safe custody and realizes interest and dividends, collects pay and pensions, pays insurance premiums and club subscriptions, and transacts Banking and Agency Business generally.

Fixed deposits received for upwards of twelve months at 5 per cent. and at correspondingly favourable rates for shorter periods.

The fullest information can be obtained by application at any of the Branches and Agencies, or at the Head Office.

GEORGE WILLIAM THOMSON, Secretary.

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Incorporated by Royal Charter.

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ESTABLISHED 1841. HEAD OFFICE.—31, Lombard-street, London, E.C. Paid-up Capital, £800,000; Reserve Fund, £200,000.

Reserve Liability of Shareholders, £800,000. Drafts and Letters of Credit Issued. Bills Bought and Collected.

Telegraphic Transfers Made. Deposits Received for Fixed Periods of one, two or three years, at 5 per cent. per annum, in sums of not less than £100.

W. G. CUTHBERTSON, General Manager.

UNION BANK OF AUSTRALIA, LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED 1837. INCORPORATED 1880. Paid-up Capital.....£1,500,000 Reserve Fund.....£980,000 Reserve Liability of Proprietors.....£3,000,000

LETTERS OF CREDIT and BILLS on DEMAND are granted on the Bank's Branches throughout the Colonies of Australia, New Zealand, and Fiji.

TELEGRAPHIC REMITTANCES are made to the Colonies.

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W. R. MEWBURN, Manager.

1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury, E.C.

London, January, 1887.

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