

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

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COVENT GARDEN.

**ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.**  
TO-NIGHT (Tuesday), March 30, at 8.30, FRA DIAVOLO. Fra Diavolo, Signor Ravelli; Beppo, Signor del Puente; Giacomo, Signor Miranda; Lorenzo, Signor Bieleto; Matteo, Signor de Vaschetti; Lord Koburg, Signor Ciampi; Lady Koburg, Mdme. Lablache; and Zerlina, Mdle. Alma Fohstrom (her second appearance this season). The Saltarella will be danced by Mdle. Hayten. Conductor, Signor Loghede.  
THURSDAY, March 31, FAUST, at 8 o'clock. Faust, Signor Stefano Caylus (his second appearance); Valentino, Signor del Puente; Mephistopheles, Signor Vetta; Wagner, Signor de Vaschetti; Siebel, Mdle. Helene Hastreiter; Martha, Mdme. Lablache; and Margherita, Mdle. Lilian Nordica.  
FRIDAY, April 1, Bizet's opera CA-MEN. Carmen, Mdme. Minnie Hauk (her third appearance).  
Doors open half an hour before the opera commences. Box-office open 10 to 5 daily. 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.  
134th Performance. 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 to till 5. Seats booked by letter or telegram.—LYCEUM.

ADELPHI.

**ADELPHI THEATRE.**—Messrs. A. A. and S. GATTI, Sole Proprietors and Managers. THIS EVENING, at 8 o'clock, THE HARBOUR LIGHTS (437th time). Mr. William Terriss, Messrs. Beveridge, Garden, Maclean, Lyndal, Boleyn, Russell, Wentworth, Courtneidge, &c.; Mesdames Millward, Irish, C. Jecks, Leigh, Brennan, Nelson, &c. At 7.15, FAMILY JARS.

GLOBE.

**GLOBE THEATRE.**—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. H. HAWTREY. TO-NIGHT, at 8.45, and EVERY EVENING, a Farical Comedy in Three Acts, entitled THE SNOWBALL, by Sydney Grundy, preceded at 8 o'clock by a new Comedietta, AFTER MANY DAYS, by Arthur Elwood. To conclude with a Musical Absurdity, CRAZED, by A. R. Phillips. Messrs. C. H. Hawtreys, 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.**—THIS EVENING, at 8.30, SOPHIA (375th time), by Robert Buchanan. Messrs. THOMAS THORNE, Carleton, Fred Thorne, Farquhar, Mellish, Grove, Wheatman, and LEONARD BOYNE; Mesdames Larkin, Leclercq, Venné, 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; Mesdames Rose Saker, F. Paget, E. Miller, and Mary Moore. Preceded by, at 8, "WHO KILLED COCK ROBIN?" Doors open at 7.30. N.B.—MATINEE of DAVID GARRICK SATURDAY NEXT, at 3 o'clock. Doors open 2.30.

OPERA COMIQUE.

**OPERA COMIQUE.—MASKS AND FACES, TO-NIGHT, at 8.15.** Messrs. Forbes-Robertson, Fernandez, Lewis Waller, Tapping, Fawcett, S. Brough, Laurence, 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. Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. J. HARRIS.

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

HAYMARKET.

**HAYMARKET.**—Lessee and Managers Mr. E. RUSSELL and Mr. G. F. BASHFORD. THIS EVENING, at 8.15, MAN AND WIFE, a Dramatic Story in Four Acts, by Wilkie Collins. Mr. E. S. Willard, Mr. H. Kemble, Mr. C. Collette, Mr. W. Herbert, Mr. A. M. Denison, Mr. Ben Greer, Mr. Winter, &c.; Miss H. Lindley, Miss Agnes Hewitt, Mrs. E. H. Brooke, and Mrs. James Brown Potter. Booking-office open daily from 10 till 5. No fees.

ST. JAMES'S.

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

OLYMPIC.

**OLYMPIC THEATRE.**—LAST FIVE NIGHTS of Mr. EDWARD TERRY and own company in IN CHANCERY and MY COUSIN. Preceded each evening, at 7.45, by TWO BLINDS. Doors open at 7.30. Carriages 10.50.

COMEDY.

**COMEDY THEATRE.**—Sole Lessee and Manageress Miss MELNOTTE. Under the direction of Mr. Calthorpe. THIS EVENING at 9, THE MORMON, by W. D. Calthorpe. Messrs. Harry Poulton, Robson, Buckstone, Girardot, and Charles Glenn (by kind permission of Henry Irving, Esq.); Misses Lavis, Gilmore, Douglas, and Beauchamp. At 8 THE OPEN GATE, by C. Haddon Chambers. Messrs. Girardot and Buckstone; Misses Armistage and Irving. Business Manager for Mr. Calthorpe, Mr. E. C. Bradley. Box-office now open, and seats can be secured at all the libraries.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.

**PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.** Mr. HORACE SEDGEMAN, Lessee and Manager. THIS EVENING, at 8.30, the successful comedy, opera, DOROTHY. (170th time.) By B. C. Stephenson and Alfred Cellier. Preceded, at 7.45, by A HAPPY DAY, by Richard Henry. Doors open 7.30. Matinée Every Saturday 2.30.

PRINCESS'S.

**PRINCESS'S THEATRE.** THE NOBLE VAGABOND, by Henry Arthur Jones (last night), 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, Ewell, will appear. Doors open 7.15. At 7.45, THE CLOCKMAKER'S HAT. Miss Hampton, &c. Box-office 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. Lug, and John Clayton; Misses Norreys, Laura Linden, Marie Lewes, and Mrs. John Wood. At 8 o'clock, THE NETTLE. Box-office open to till 5. No fees. MATINEE of DANDY DICK every SATURDAY, at 2.10.

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.

**SOCIÉTÉ D'AQUARELLISTES FRANÇAIS.**—The French Water-Colour Society will hold an EXHIBITION of their WORKS in the Goupil Gallery, 116 and 117, New Bond-street, during next month. Over Three Hundred Water-Colour Drawings by the chief French Artists will be exhibited.

**PIANOS.**—860 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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**CRYSTAL PALACE.—GOOD FRIDAY, April 8.—GRAND SACRED CONCERT** at 3.30 P.M. Vocalists: Miss Anna Williams, Miss Annie Marriott, Mdme. Patey; Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. Edward Lloyd, and Signor Foli. Crystal Palace Choir and Orchestra. Conductor, Mr. August Manns. Illuminated Promenade and Evening Concert by Full Band of Grenadier Guards (Conductor, Mr. Dan Godfrey) (by permission of Officer Commanding).—ONE SHILLING DAY.

**CRYSTAL PALACE.—EASTER MONDAY, April 11.—UNPRECEDENTED ATTRACTIONS.—JUBILEE WRESTLING COMPETITION** by leading Cumberland and Westmoreland Wrestlers, Assault at Arms, Boxing, &c. Bicycle Races v. Horses. Grand Variety Entertainment by the foremost Artists. Band of Scots Guards, Conductor, Mr. J. P. Clarke (by permission of officer commanding) and other Military Bands. See future announcements.—ONE SHILLING DAY.

**FREEHOLD GROUND.—CITY OF LONDON.**

The Commissioners of Sewers of the City of London will meet in the Guildhall of the said City on TUESDAY, the 5th of April, 1887, at Half-past Twelve o'clock precisely, to RECEIVE TENDERS for the purchase of a very valuable Freehold Building Site, situate at the corner of Bream's-buildings, Fetter-lane, and possessing a frontage to Bream's-buildings of about 60 ft., as per plans and particulars to be obtained at the office of the Engineer to the Commissioners, in the Guildhall.

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IND, COOPE, & CO.'S CELEBRATED AK LIGHT BITTER ALE, for family use.

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IND, COOPE, & CO.'S ROMFORD BOTTLED ALE at 2s. 6d. per doz. Imperial Pints.

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From all Wine Merchants and Grocers in London and Suburbs.

SIR,—With reference to the article headed "Letters to Notable Sportsmen, No. 9, Mr. Robert Peck," published by me in the edition of the *Bat* of February 1, 1887, I beg to assure you that, having heard your evidence at the police court before Sir James Ingham, and having had an opportunity of inquiring into the facts of the case, I am perfectly satisfied that the whole of the charges, insinuations, and suggestions reflecting in any way on your conduct contained in that article are entirely baseless and untrue, and that they cannot be justified in any particular; and I hereby unreservedly withdraw the whole of them, and beg to express to you my extreme regret for having published them; and I hereby authorize you to publish this apology in such manner and at such times as you shall think fit.

JAMES DAVIS,  
Proprietor, publisher, and printer of the *Bat*.  
To Robert Peck, Esq.

### LOAN 1886, FOR £1,060,000.

CORPORATION OF LONDON (TOWER BRIDGE) ACT, 1885.

#### DRAWING OF DEBENTURES.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, in pursuance of the conditions contained in the said Debentures, and in accordance with the provisions of the "Local Loans Act, 1875," the following Debentures were drawn by Lot, on WEDNESDAY, the 23rd day of March, 1887, by the Local Loans Committee of the Corporation, at the Guildhall in the City of London, in the presence of the undersigned, and will, in accordance with the terms of the said Debentures, be PAID OFF AT PAR on presentation and delivery, with all coupons not then due, at the CHAMBER OF LONDON, GUILDHALL, on the 3rd day of May, 1887, from which date all interest will cease, viz.:

10 Debentures for £1,000 each.	Nos.:	104
59 62 80 111 183 204		
239 252 423 434.....		£10,000
19 Debentures for £500 each.	Nos.:	642
522 560 563 595 632 642		
677 928 964 997 1038 1115		
1139 1308 1330 1430 1436 1464		
1472 .....		9,500
10 Debentures for £100 each.	Nos.:	1948
1566 1853 1887 1897 1945 1948		
2017 2022 2059 2095 .....		1,000
Total.....		£20,500

E. J. STONHAM, Chairman of Local Loans Committee.  
BENJAMIN SCOTT, Chamberlain.  
JOHN B. MONCKTON, Town Clerk.  
Guildhall, 23rd March, 1887.

### CLERICAL, MEDICAL, & GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

Chief Office—13, St. James's-square, London, S.W.  
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### TWELFTH BONUS MEETING, 1887.

The Report presented at a meeting, held on the 6th January last, showed that on the rigorous bases of the Institute of Actuaries' HM and HM(5) Tables of Mortality, with 3 per cent. interest and net premiums, which together produce the highest reserves known to the Assurance practice.

The calculated liability was..... £2,181,937  
To which further Reserves were added of..... 158,823

Making the Total Reserves..... £2,340,760  
And the Assurance Fund being.... 2,715,760

The Divisible Surplus was..... £375,000

This sum was larger by £30,000 than any previously distributed, and produced the highest ratio of profit ever declared by the Society—viz., a CASH BONUS OF 33½ PER CENT. on the Premiums of the Five Years.

**NEXT BONUS.**  
The next Division of Profits will take place in January, 1892, and persons who effect new policies before the end of June next will be entitled at that division to one year's additional share of profits.

The New Bonus Report, the full prospectus, forms of proposal, and every information on application.  
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For particulars apply to the Secretary,  
F. H. ROCKE.

**NOTE of HAND SIMPLY.**—ST. STEPHEN'S REVIEW says: "That Alfred Warner, of Jermyn-street, is the right man to apply to for those who require a few thousands urgently on their own note of hand."—J. Jermyn-street (Haymarket end), London, S.W. Telephone No. 382.



## THE ST. JAMES'S GAZETTE.

TUESDAY, MARCH 29, 1887.

## MR. BALFOUR AND HIS ASSAILANTS.

THOSE who looked to the production of Mr. BALFOUR's Bill for a fund of interest and excitement are not likely to be disappointed. As soon as he rose to speak last night the game began which, with the help of the English Parnellites, is to be kept up day after day, week after week, month after month. This is their own statement of their plan of proceedings; or so they say who enjoy the smoking-room confidences of the Gladstonian party. There is to be such fun in the House of Commons as was never seen out of an Irish fair. Mr. PARNELL himself is understood to be in a very weak state of health—that drawback is confessed. But Mr. GLADSTONE is in excellent form—full of life, energy, and "go;" and, man for man, the supporters of that gentleman are believed to be far superior in point of physical endurance, as well as of audacity and determination, to the Ministerialists. Besides, scruples they have none—these gentlemen of the Irish party; and that, of course, gives them an immense advantage.

Look at what happened at the very beginning of the contest. Mr. BALFOUR is not a robust man; he is new to burdens and responsibilities which, as the Parnellites boast, have "done for" two or three Chief Secretaries already; he is understood to be of a sensitive and nervous temperament; and he is known to have that sort of delicacy—(almost fatal to a Parliament man in these days)—which is commonly described as reluctance to come to fisticuffs with a sweep. Opposite him, last night, sat Mr. GLADSTONE. This gentleman has some right to call himself the father of the House of Commons: he has been its leader and exemplar for a far longer time than anybody else in that assembly, which used to be styled "august;" he will be astonished to hear that he is not about the most fair-minded man that ever sat within its walls; his sensibilities are reputed to be of the exquisite order. Well, there he sat while his allies and followers deliberately carried out their plan of harrying Mr. BALFOUR out of his wits by every kind of brutal interruption. A little of this sort of thing was tried upon Mr. GOSCHEN the other night—also by previous arrangement on the Opposition benches; but Mr. GOSCHEN is a match even for the coarsest parliamentary "bruiser," and needed no protection. It might have been expected, however, when Mr. BALFOUR was set upon by all the ruffianism at Mr. GLADSTONE'S back, that the sensibilities of the right honourable gentleman would have been moved a little; and that for the sake of decency he would have held his followers in some restraint. But nothing of that kind happened. The chivalrous Mr. GLADSTONE, the pink and pattern of all that is fair-minded and generous, sat smiling at the efforts of his friends to break the Chief Secretary down by every variety of interruption and insult. A noble spectacle this, and one that gives full warning of what is to come.

And we are afraid it must be admitted that the tactics of the Gladstonite party were more or less successful. Mr. BALFOUR never lost his temper, never allowed himself to be driven for a moment beyond the rules of courtesy by his brutal assailants; but that their assaults told upon him in an appreciable degree must be evident to all who read his speech to-day. However, he got through his work well enough; and he started with this advantage, that no honest man in the three kingdoms had to be persuaded when Mr. BALFOUR rose to speak that the state of Ireland demands the strengthening of the law in that island. It is said, of course, that he did not make out a sufficient case for the Bill it was his business to lay before the House of Commons. And that, no doubt, will be Mr. GLADSTONE'S contention when he replies to the Chief Secretary this evening. But if the case for the Bill as presented by Mr. BALFOUR had been thrice as good, it would not have been half as strong as we all know it to be. It is true that not nearly as many "village ruffians" are roaming the country, burning and maiming and murdering, as there were five years ago; but all over a large part of Ireland they are lurking in every ditch, and are only kept down for a time because it does not suit Mr. GLADSTONE'S convenience at present that they should ring the chapel-bell very often or very violently. There they are, however—enlisted by the League, blessed by the priests, and only awaiting the result of Mr. GLADSTONE'S efforts on behalf of their cause to begin again, or to revenge themselves on the loyalists in a "liberated" Ireland. But there is to be no liberated Ireland as they understand liberation; and therefore, and in view of the certain disappointment that will call the dynamiter and the knifer and the cattle-maimer into operation again (unless he is prevented), the legislation proposed by Mr. BALFOUR is an imperative matter of precaution. This is sufficient justification of the measure announced to the House of Commons last night; and this is the answer to the Dillons, Laboucheres, Morleys, and others who innocently ask, "Where

are the criminals against whom you set up this abominably severe system of law administration?" Quite enough of them and their barbarities and tyrannies are as visible as anything under the sun; but for the most part these patriots are in the ditch; they are lurking in Mr. GLADSTONE'S shadow; and when he is forced to stand aside they must be struck at instantly if they are to be prevented from renewing on a more formidable scale the horrors of 1882.

There will be plenty of time to discuss the means by which the Government propose to meet this most serious danger. Of course they are found by the Gladstonians, both Irish and English, to be merely atrocious. Their severity is monstrous, unheard of, et cetera, et cetera. For our own part, we should have preferred them more severe, and more simple. In one particular we doubt whether they are judicious—looking at the matter from our own-convenience point of view. As a whole, they strike us as very good for the present position of things; but whether they will suffice for the state of things that will probably arise as soon as the Irish conspiracy is routed in the House of Commons—that is another question. And it seems as if the Government propose to weaken their own hands in the not improbable event of something like sudden and organized rebellion. However, we need say no more on that point to-day.

## ISKANDER KHAN.

THE telegram from Bombay announcing, on the basis of some native report, that, "in consequence of authentic news received from the Governor of Herat, the Governor of Turkestan had ordered Iskander Khan, with a force of 12,000 men to take Herat by surprise," needs some explanation to render it generally intelligible.

Who is this Iskander Khan whom the Governor of Turkestan is supposed to be sending against Herat? Ten years ago, until the outbreak of the Russo-Turkish war, Iskander Khan was living in London. He was a nephew of Shere Ali and son of a former Governor of Herat who, claiming to hold the Herat governorship as an hereditary office, was dispossessed by his brother the Ameer. His adventures had been very remarkable; and some account of them is to be found in Sir Henry Rawlinson's well-known volume on Central Asia; also in another work on the doings of the Russians at home and abroad. After the defeat of his father, Iskander Khan lived for some time at Cabul. Thence, believing his life in danger, he escaped to Bokhara, where he was appointed to the command of the Bokharian cavalry. He found, however, that his position excited the jealousy of various chiefs; and, his life being once more in danger, he made his way to the Russian possessions and placed himself at the disposal of the Russian Government. His services were accepted; and he commanded troops in one of the battles fought by the Russians against the Bokharians. He was afterwards sent to St. Petersburg, where he was attached, with the rank of lieutenant-colonel, to the Hussar Regiment of the Imperial Guard. After passing some years at St. Petersburg, where he acquired a good knowledge of the Russian and French languages, he expressed a desire to return to Afghanistan and was encouraged to do so by the Russian Government. He was urged, however, to go back by way of Central Asia, whereas it was his wish first of all to visit England. To England in due time he came; and here he hastened to place himself in communication with the India Office. Apparently, he expected to be treated as a member of a reigning family; and he himself wrote a letter to a Russian newspaper in which he represented himself as receiving in England honours far in excess of those paid to him in the Czar's dominions. As a matter of fact, however, the India Office reported the case to Cabul, and received an answer to the effect that he was not wanted in his native land and that he had better not return. This was looked upon as a dismissal of Iskander Khan in his character of royal prince; and, on the convenient plea that to grant him a princely allowance would be to wound the susceptibilities and excite the suspicions of the Ameer, he had assigned to him a very moderate subsidy indeed. The kindest thing done to him was to place him under the care of an official who, possessing a thorough knowledge of the Russian language and of Russian and Central Asian affairs, could talk to him in a language and about subjects with which he was familiar.

Iskander Khan used to curse his £15 a fortnight, while punctually receiving it; and he sometimes said that if ever he had the good fortune to meet in Afghanistan the high official by whom his cheques were signed, he should know how to deal with him. At the same time he spoke of this functionary with the greatest respect in his character of historian, praising him in particular for the justice he rendered, in his narrative of the war in Afghanistan, to the bravery of the Afghans. During his stay in England Iskander Khan paid some attention to political and more to military affairs. He was fond of the theatre, and especially of Charles Mathews, whose acting in "My Awful Dad" he particularly admired. Without claiming to be very religious, he used to attend the services at the mosque of the Persian Embassy. He condemned and ridiculed attempts on the part of Christians to convert Mahomedans, saying that they might gain the adhesion of a few scoundrels but that there never had been and never could be an example of a Mahomedan gentleman abandoning his religion. Asked what he thought of the Jews, he said that they were not liked in Afghanistan because they avoided military service and preferred the life of pedlars. They had, moreover, a dreadful custom, for which it was impossible not to detest them. For the celebration of their principal feast it was necessary to have the blood of a Mahomedan child, and Afghan children were often sacrificed that their blood might be used in



these awful rites. I told Iskander Khan that in various parts of Europe the Jews were accused in like manner of using for the ceremonies of the Passover the blood of a Christian child, but that no educated person believed such tales. He replied that he knew nothing of the matter from his own personal knowledge, and that he had only repeated to me what he had often heard and what in his country was generally believed.

As he had Jewish features himself, I asked him whether he had ever heard that the Afghans were descendants of the Lost Tribes; what he thought about it himself; and in particular whether there was any tradition on the subject. There was, he said, a tradition on the subject, but he did not know whether to believe it or not.

When Russia declared war against Turkey nothing would satisfy him but to join the Turks. Accordingly, giving up his allowance from the India Office—which under the circumstances could not of course be continued to him—he sold some valuable arms and some Russian decorations (perhaps also borrowed some money from Mahomedan friends) and managed to get to Constantinople. He wished to raise a regiment of cavalry for service against the Russians, but could not obtain permission to do so. He was apparently mistrusted, from having been himself an officer in the Russian army. After the peace he was heard of in Persia, but was soon afterwards missed altogether by his English friends. His relationship to the late Ameer might justify him (more or less perfectly) in putting himself forward in opposition to Abdur Rahman; and the fact of his being the son of the chief who considered himself life-governor by inheritance of Herat would point him out to the Russians as a claimant well worth supporting. If the story of his marching against Herat be true, the troops under his command are no doubt rebellious Afghans—probably from Afghan-Turkestan, where the Russians, from their adjacent possessions, have abundant opportunities of spreading disaffection and encouraging revolt.

## NOTES.

Lord Tennyson has not often undertaken a harder task than to celebrate in a really poetic spirit a topic so hackneyed as the Queen's Jubilee. Every day for many months the word Jubilee has been dinned into our ears and paraded before our eyes; and all the other words and expressions appropriate to the occasion have shared the same fate. Where, then, is a distracted laureate to look for some phrase which shall not call up vague reminiscences of Jubilee buns and coal-scuttles, or Jubilee embankments and drinking-fountains? Advertisers, afternoon-callers, diners-out, and collectors have invested the subject with an atmosphere of commonplace monotony from which it is no easy matter to escape. As a metrical experiment Lord Tennyson's poem is very interesting, and worthy of the author of "Boadicea" and the stanzas on Milton.

The *Liberal Unionist* has made a good start, and there is plenty of evidence, both in the letters from Liberal leaders and in the editorial articles, that the Liberal branch of the Unionist party is thoroughly in earnest and bent on energetic action. Mr. Caine writes a particularly vigorous letter calling for organization and education in every constituency throughout the country. The *Liberal Unionist* declares that no member of the party can "wish for re-union" so long as Ford controls Mr. Parnell and Mr. Parnell guides Mr. Gladstone. Recognizing the fact that these conditions are likely to continue in existence for a considerable time, the Liberal Unionists are everywhere girding themselves for the fight. They are right to do so; and it is to be hoped that the Conservatives will be at least as active as their allies in maintaining Unionist principles, and making their position secure in the various constituencies which were won at the last election. No effort is being spared by the advocates of Home Rule to spread their views in London and elsewhere; misrepresentations, threats, and blandishments are everywhere employed; and it would be a mistake to think that the friends of the Union can safely rest on their laurels. There is much work to do of the kind which was so successfully done last year; and there ought to be a generous rivalry between the two branches of the Unionist alliance, in the work of resisting Separatist attacks and of preparing new victories in constituencies which are still Gladstonian.

Sir Charles Dilke knows a good deal of France and something of Germany, and hence his *Fortnightly* articles on those countries are of some value. But on Russia and Austria he writes with little judgment, and, what is more surprising, without much accurate knowledge. He draws an exaggerated picture of the strength of Russia, based partly on the Government statistics, which are worthless, partly on a vague impression that Russia must necessarily be as strong as she is big and populous. He tells us that Russia would be a match for France and Germany together; forgetting that ten years ago, even with the help of the Roumanians, she found it no easy matter to get the better of bankrupt and disorganized Turkey. He underrates the strength of Austria as much as he exaggerates that of her Eastern neighbour. His opinion is based upon a rather superficial view of the diverse races and nationalities which are ruled by the Hapsburgs. But though these populations differ more or less among themselves, it by no means follows that they would not fight heartily against an invader, especially if that invader were a Russian. It is absurd to represent the various Austrian populations as if they were always flying at each other's throats. The British Empire, with its English-

men, Scotchmen, Welshmen, Irishmen, Hindoos, Mahomedans, French Canadians, South Africans, Australians, could not exist if different and even unfriendly peoples would not form front against a common foe.

The *Standard* publishes a story from Egypt of two English officers who were out quail-shooting, and accidentally wounded some passing Bedaween. A discussion ensued, in which neither party could understand the other; the discussion became a quarrel; a Bedaween attempted to wrest a gun from the hands of an officer; and, the gun accidentally going off, one of the natives was killed. The inhabitants of the neighbouring village seized upon the two officers and treated them with considerable severity. The narrator of these events complacently hopes "that the opportunity may be seized of teaching a useful lesson to the natives." It may be legitimate to hope also that English officers will learn the useful lesson that some care should be exercised in shooting quails, even in a desert, and that it is well to meet those whom you have accidentally wounded with a courteous demeanour and conciliatory speeches.

Concerning the Shop-Hours Bill, Mr. Chamberlain writes that, though in favour (as who is not?) of reducing excessive labour in shops, he does not approve of Sir John Lubbock's proposals. There seems very little chance that the measure will become law; but if it does, it is tolerably certain that it will share the fate of Sir John's last attempt at shop hours legislation. A few days ago a weekly newspaper which is the property of a very advanced Radical and special friend of the people remarked that it would be an uncommonly good thing to introduce a Bill limiting the total number of hours during which shop-assistants might be employed to, say, seventy-four hours a week. The shop-keeper might arrange his day as he pleased, but could be summoned if he exceeded the total seventy-four hours in seven days. Now it happens that this is the very measure which was carried last session, and is to be found in the statutes of the realm as Act 49 and 50 Vict., c. 55, sec. 1. But the Radical journalist did not know it, and nor do most other persons. The Act is absolute, inoperative, and its failure is (or should be) a warning to impulsive legislators.

Lord Bramwell, whom his worst enemy cannot accuse of lacking the courage of his convictions, moved last night in the House of Lords that the South-Eastern Railway Company might be heard by counsel at the bar in opposition to the Railway Rates Bill. His lordship did not explain in what way the position of the South-Eastern differed from that of the couple of hundred other companies to which the provisions of the Bill will apply. Perhaps had he stated that the Bill might make more difference to the South-Eastern than to other lines, inasmuch as they had a larger proportion than usual of arbitrary and indefensible rates, he would hardly have conciliated the sympathies of his hearers. It is certainly as well that Lord Bramwell's proposal was negatived without a division. If the bar of the two Houses were to be used as an airing-ground for all the grievances of all the persons who fancy themselves injured by each new Bill, the wheels of the legislative machine would run even more slowly than they do at present.

It seems likely that Morocco is going to be opened up at last. Not long since a Spanish Chamber of Commerce was established at Tangier; and now the Spanish Government is about to send an Embassy to the Sultan with an autograph letter from the Queen-Regent. The object of the Embassy is to obtain general concessions from this somewhat impracticable potentate, and, among other things, to seek permission to construct a railway connecting Tangiers and Ceuta with Tetuan. The French Minister in Morocco is also seeking to obtain commercial advantages for his countrymen, and is proposing to establish at Oudja a bazaar where French goods can be exhibited. Great credit is due to the American Government for having been the first to investigate the abuses arising from the "protection" system; and since the arrival of the new United States Consul, a week or two ago, a considerable number of persons who had been imprisoned in respect of claims from natives who had placed themselves under American protection have been liberated. A "protected" Moor or Jew at once ceased to be amenable to the native law, and was able to oppress his debtors pretty much as he pleased. But there are many signs that these halcyon days are passed.

The duties of metropolitan magistrates are many and various. It is refreshing to find one amongst their number who has not hesitated to add to his sufficiently onerous occupations the rôle of *intermédiaire* in the marriage market. At the Bow-street Police Court a lady named Charlotte Hayes was charged with being drunk and disorderly in Northumberland-avenue on Saturday night. Thereupon a young man entered the witness-box and offered to be bound for her good behaviour. It having been explained to Mr. Bridge that the gentleman in question—a lighterman by profession—was willing to marry the defendant, the learned magistrate came quickly to the point with all the splendid audacity of a *rusé* chaperon. Mr. Bridge, to the man: "Are you willing to marry this woman?" The



man: "Certainly, your worship." Mr. Bridge, to the defendant: "Are you willing to marry this man?" The defendant: "Yes, your worship." This avowal of mutual attachment seems to have been sufficient for the magistrate's purpose, and he immediately discharged the defendant. As for the gallant lighterman, who shall say after this that British pluck is a thing of the past? A man who would take a wife under such circumstances would handle a live shell or lead a forlorn hope. We trust that neither Charlotte nor the lighterman of her choice will ever find cause to complain of the Bow-street Matrimonial Agency.

Another case which came before the Bow-street Court showed that the worthy magistrate has strong and sensible views on the subject of marriage. A young woman with an infant in her arms was charged with stealing some clothes. On examination it appeared that she had a husband who belonged to the honourable profession of Mr. Chamberlain. He was a screw-maker; but everybody does not find that trade so profitable as Messrs. Nettlefolds. He was out of work; his wife, with her baby, was in want, and hence the appearance at the police court. The woman was eighteen years old, and had been married for a year and a quarter. The worthy magistrate delivered a severe lecture on the foolishness of these boy-and-girl weddings. It comes too late to be of much use to poor Annie Keho, aged eighteen; but it may not be without effect on some of Mr. Bridge's audience. The registration returns show that the proportion of early marriages in the neighbourhood of the district in which the Bow-street Police Court is placed must be abnormally high.

The Lord Advocate's new Criminal Procedure Reform Bill is an eminently sensible and practical measure. For one thing, the form of indictment, which in Scotland is almost as long and as technical as an English conveyance of fifty years ago, is to be shortened and simplified. For another, the circuit arrangements are to be recast; and the fact that Dundee, for instance, is nowadays more important than Dumfries or Fort William, is to be recognized. For a judge should go in state to the furthest bounds of the Highlands twice a year, often merely for the purpose of receiving a pair of white gloves, will no longer be a statutory obligation. The Bill will not be less welcome to the Edinburgh Bar from the fact that it proposes a considerable increase of the present judicial salaries. There can be no doubt that, by comparison with Ireland at least, Scotch lawyers have a grievance on this point. Their work is harder and Edinburgh is a much more expensive place to live in than Dublin; but the Irish salaries are far higher than theirs.

Father Ryan has come to Dublin and has been driven to the Imperial Hotel in the Lord Mayor's carriage. He has expressed a hope that he will be in gaol in the course of to-day. Father Ryan appears to be enjoying himself very much. He kept out of the way of the large body of police who came to Herbertstown to effect his arrest, and appointed plenipotentiaries to negotiate for their withdrawal, upon the terms of his promising to come to Dublin of his own accord. One would think he might as well have come as soon as he was summoned; but Father Ryan frankly owns that he likes his movements to be accompanied by some little stir and excitement. He spoke with gleeful anticipation of the demonstrations he would have at the railway stations all along the line and of the "40,000 people" who would come forward to receive him at Dublin. The estimate was rather sanguine, as the crowd who escorted him from Kingsbridge to the hotel only numbered 2,000. However, the chance of making a scene in the Bankruptcy Court and the pleasures of Kilmainham will probably console the honest priest for the incomplete success of his reception.

There are some love-letters in the new number of the *English Illustrated Magazine* which will be among the chief attractions of that publication. They are supposed to have been written by young Richard Brinsley Sheridan to the fair Miss Linley, who afterwards became his fond and faithful wife. The correspondence is very charming reading—characteristic and with plenty of "local colour." Unfortunately, though it may be said to be *ben trovato* (it was found in an old beer-barrel rescued from the great fire at Drury Lane Theatre), it seems doubtful whether it is *vera*. Somebody, who seems to write with knowledge, avers that the beer-barrel is a myth, and the letters a skilful concoction. It will be for Messrs. Macmillan and their contributor to set these doubts at rest, if possible, by giving the exact history and bibliography of the epistles. If the sceptics are right the good old art of literary forgery survives, and there moves among us a worthy successor to the talented Chatterton, the ingenious Ireland, the nameless person of letters who invented the historian Ingulphus, the deviser of the mediæval chronicle of Richard of Cirencester, and the perpetrator of the late Mr. J. Payne Collier's famous Shaksperian manuscript.

The chief contribution of Mr. Hamo Thornycroft to the Academy will be the model for his statue of Gordon. Like so much of this young sculptor's work, it displays a peculiar faculty for combining style with actuality. The memorial as a whole consists of a square pedestal, about 14 ft. high, with bas-reliefs on the sides and a colossal standing statue. In each relief there are two figures. Those on the left are Faith and Fortitude; those on the right, Charity and Justice. The figure of Gordon himself is, of course, in uniform, but the attitude is one of profound thought; while in the left

hand the famous Bible, now among the Queen's treasures at Windsor, is represented. Into the architectural part of the pedestal Mr. Thornycroft has introduced enrichments which lift it out of the common run of such things. The destination of Mr. Thornycroft's work is the centre of Trafalgar-square, between the fountains. A worse site could not easily be found. To begin with, the swelling sides of the two basins will come so close on either hand that the statue will look like an interloper, and it will be evident to the most careless eye that its presence there was never anticipated. Secondly, the effect of any statue so close behind Nelson on his column, and in a line with him, can be nothing less than comic. That such a place should have been chosen when so many good sites are going begging is a puzzle. It is but one more proof that the officials who manage such things neither have taste themselves nor consult those who have.

Your mention of Mr. W. H. Bartlett's picture of a "Last Brief Voyage" among the islands off Galway (says a correspondent) reminds me of a scene in Bermuda years ago, in the beginning of my life. Bermuda is all islands, and the people are always more or less in boats. On this occasion a well-known gentleman had died, and was to be buried in the churchyard on "Devonshire Island." The mourners came in all directions—across the smooth waters of the Sound and the narrower channels between the many islets. In my boat I had taken a person not known to me; but he was civil and decently dressed, and seemed full of sorrow. I was fond of the dead man; we had had much to do with one another, and I, being young and impressionable, felt as I ought to do at a funeral—and a funeral such as I had never seen before. However, a few words passed, and then we talked. My fellow-passenger had evidently something on his mind, and at last out it came. "You knew the deceased, I think," said he. "I did." "Then perhaps you can tell me if something which I have heard is true?" "I shall be glad to try." "Well, then, was he or was he not addicted to sunbumbulism?" My grief was sincere, but it was not proof against *that*.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

### PRIESTS AND PRIVILEGE.

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

SIR,—I venture to think that the story told under this heading by your correspondent "A Land Agent," though pathetic in itself and highly discreditable to the parish priest, is a melancholy example of how rebellion ought not to be met by its immediate victims. Your correspondent and his friend submitted to the unlawful threats of the priest "out of regard for a large field." It would have been much better if they had persisted in joining the hunt. As it was, all they gained for the ladies and gentlemen of the Meath Hunt was a single day's amusement by permission of the priest in question. For this trifling advantage they encouraged the priest to exercise the tyranny of the National League, and made future resistance to his lawless demands considerably more difficult. If Irish gentlemen can accept an ignominious defeat in this way in order not to seem to stand between their friends and their amusements, how can they expect small farmers to resist the League and pay their rent, when by so doing they will certainly lose the companionship of their fellows and will endanger their lives and property as well?

I think the proper answer to the priest would have been to this effect:—"To turn back at your bidding would be to leave the hunt to take place under your patronage, and we refuse to put any such indignity upon respectable persons, especially at the cost of annoyance and discredit to ourselves. If the hunt is stopped, we shall know that you are, or desire to be considered, responsible, and we shall therefore compensate ourselves for the loss of our sport, and endeavour to recall you to a sense of your pastoral duties, by laying our hunting-crops across your reverend shoulders." If this tone had been adopted I think the hunt would have taken place. If it had not, I think the priest should have been made to regret it.

Your correspondent says that his friend and he sought consolation in "exchanging sentiments not flattering to her Majesty's Government as hitherto and now conducted in Ireland." Their sentiments may not have been flattering to the Government, but, if imitation is flattery, their conduct, as he describes it, was.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

March 28.

H.

### SPORT IN AUSTRALIA.

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

SIR,—In your article on "Sport in Australia," the writer has done less than justice to the resources of the colonists in regard to shooting and fishing. While speaking with (for a colonist) odd complacency about that naturalized curse the rabbit, whose introduction not only "the squatter" but the general public has reason to lament, and of the local enthusiasm for "drag-hunts," your contributor ignores what is the best and most popular of the indigenous sports in the bush—namely, the hunting of the kangaroo with kangaroo-dogs, compared with which kangaroo-hunting with fox-hounds is but skylarking or agrarian outrage. The "hedges and ditches" spoken of as "abounding for the enterprising and venturesome" is true only of certain parts of New Zealand. They are unknown in Australia, where their substitute, the iron-bark unbreakable post-and-rail fence five feet high, furnish as much opportunity for enterprise as the most ardent lover of the chase need desire.

In the matter of shooting, the capabilities of Australia are by no means limited to shooting wombats and "tiger-cats." The native game-birds, in quality and in variety, as well as in the nature of the sport they afford, are quite equal to those which are naturally provided in any other country of the world. Black



swans and wild-fowl in many kinds apart, Australia has three species of quail; the largest of which, the brown quail, is almost equal in size to the partridge; while they all give excellent sport. Then there are the two noble species of pigeon, the wonga-wonga and the bronze-wing, the pursuit of which in the beautiful districts they inhabit well rewards the shooter. The snipe-shooting is the best in the world; and the snipe, which is more than twice the size of the English bird, cannot be matched for delicacy and flavour. I have known eighty brace of these large snipe, which fly like woodcock, fall to a single gun in the Western District. Lastly, there is the lordly bustard, or wild turkey, which sometimes reaches 30lb. in weight when dressed for the table: a bird of admirable quality, and unhappily getting rather scarce.

Your contributor is apparently not an angler—or at least has not cared to pursue that sport in Australia—or he would not speak so slightly of the resources of the local fresh-water fishermen. The salmon and trout apart, which can scarcely yet be reckoned as available for sport in Australia (the trout, I am told, are quite demoralized by the good living they get in Australian rivers and decline to look at an artificial fly), I beg to say that there is at least one native fish, the grayling (*Noto-thymallus Australis*), locally called fresh-water herring and mullet, which affords capital sport to the fly-fisher. It is true that the fish never grows to any large size. I have never caught one over a pound; but they are very plentiful in the streams running down from the Ranges to the sea, south and east; and a beautiful, lively, game fish, as good for eating as for sport. In the wilder districts of Gippsland I have had as good fishing with the fly as in any other part of the world; and I have fished much in various countries. Besides the grayling there is a fine fresh-water fish in the Gippsland streams, locally called golden perch—of course, no relation to *Perca fluviatilis*—growing to a weight of 6lb. or 7lb., which affords excellent trolling with a green frog for bait. If little is known about fishing in Australia, it is not because the fish is scarce or that angling is unpopular, but because there are few men of leisure sufficient to bestow that attention on this branch of sport which it deserves.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

March 28.

H. E. W.

### FRANCE NEUTRALIZED.

BERLIN, March 26.

WHEN in October last, the Emperor Francis Joseph first spoke with his Hungarian Ministers of the situation brought about by the Bulgarian difficulty, and the obvious "way out" suggested by a Balkanic Confederation, those who should know say that his Majesty's first word was: "Yes, but what of the neutrality of France? If any means can be found of securing the neutrality of France, then peace may be preserved and the line to be taken by Austria becomes clear." And the Emperor was right. All hung upon the neutrality of France, and that neutrality is now imposed by the tripartite treaty between Italy, Austria, and Germany.

People vaguely guess at some considerable good having been achieved by this treaty; but they do not even now appear to grasp its full significance, or to "trace home to its cloud" this stroke which has changed the whole situation in Europe. As a matter of fact, peace is insured, unless you can suppose France or Russia suddenly possessed by a *folie furieuse*; and it is insured by the action of Prince Bismarck, who has persisted in his policy since the day when, eight or nine months ago, he told the world he could only act if he "were three." He has in truth done what a portion of the German press has been enjoining him to do: he has laid peace with a weighty hand, but noiselessly, upon the shoulders of Europe; and he has done this because he was, and when he was, "three."

Many months ago the Chancellor proclaimed it loudly enough: "If I am only two I am not strong enough; I must be three." In his own mind, at that time, the "third" meant England. Well, we know what passed: the "third" was not to be counted upon, though perhaps not quite to be despaired of in a certain degree. Then stood forth as the one obstacle the neutrality of France. No one denied it, the Chancellor admitted it, the French Government felt it. Therefore certain approaches, scarcely to be called such, were ventured on; certain stealthy steps towards an arrangement were made; people hinted at "concessions," or "sacrifices," on both sides; and all this went on as though the subject were too awful to be openly dealt with. And as long as it was deemed possible to come to negotiations with France, this mystery endured, and on that account, perhaps, the French Government became helpless to deal with. France knew her neutrality the one pivot on which turned the possibility of peace, and the wildest dreams began to haunt her as to the price she might obtain for it.

Meanwhile Prince Bismarck had achieved his own supremacy, and the next thing was to bring to his side the "third." As it was merely lost time to try and show France her own interests, the only plan was, by help of the "third," to nail her down to neutrality; making her by that very fact useless to Russia, who, in turn, became of no use to her. There was no bustle, no noise, no "Circulars"—above all, no Congress,—but a complete stalemate for France; who must now turn round and see how she can do the best for herself at home. Her friends may avoid saying that she is "shut up," but what is undeniable is that she is shut in. All has been done so quietly, with such prompt and silent resolution and with such consummate tact, that the general public has probably nowhere taken in the enormous significance of what has happened.

Of course there is more to do, and more that is bristling with difficulties. The end of it all is necessarily disarmament; and the great Chancellor is not the man he has hitherto shown himself if he does not mean disarmament. That, however, cannot be hurried; but meanwhile people would do well to examine narrowly what has already been done, and be thankful to the Chancellor; for it is he who has done it.

### A JEWISH WEDDING IN THE CAUCASUS.

FROM time immemorial the eastern region of the Caucasus has been inhabited by a body of Jews who differ in almost every respect from their co-religionists in other parts of the world. They are not immigrants, and are reckoned by the Russians among the indigenous mountain peoples of the land. In appearance, as in attire, they are not distinguishable from the native highlanders. Their language, which is a mixture of early Persian and Tartaric, furnishes evidence of the remote period at which they must have settled in the district, and many of their customs are strange to other Oriental Jews, with whom they never ally themselves. Their marriage rites are unique; and, excepting in the purely religious part of the ceremony, which is limited to seven short benedictions, a Jewish wedding in an "aul" or townlet of Daghestan, Baku, or Erivan, has nothing in common with the celebration customary among Hebrews in Eastern or Western countries.

Marriage is regarded by these Caucasian Jews only as a consummation of the betrothal, which always takes place some months previously and to all intents and purposes makes the young people man and wife. Hence the bride and bridegroom are known by the ancient Biblical designation "Arass" and "Aru-sa." All courting has to be done in the interval between the formal betrothal and the wedding; but as etiquette requires that the young lady should seat herself on the ground and veil her face whenever the young man calls, and he, in like manner, is not permitted to speak to the bride or her female relatives, there is not much *empressment* about this part of the business. However, the bridegroom recommends himself to the lady's notice by regular presents of silk-stuffs, silver-ware, and embroidery; while the bride gives expression to her sentiments through the medium of fat sheep-tails nicely stewed with raisins, a dish of pickled garlic and honey, "chinkal" balls of flour, suet, and vinegar, or some other delicacy of the kind prepared by her own hands and sent to her *fiancé* every second or third day. A month before the ceremony is appointed to take place, the father of the bridegroom takes a couple of witnesses, goes to the young lady's house, and then and there formally pays the parents the price they demand for their daughter. This purchase-money is generally expended in household necessities for the young people; the father of the girl adding any amount he thinks proper for a dowry. It is usual afterwards to send a present of money and food to any residents of the place who have lost a relative within the year and are therefore in mourning. This is done to secure their consent and good-will, and may be regarded as a kindly apology for contemplating a joyous celebration while they are still sorrowing for their dead.

In order to comply with rabbinical prescription, the wedding ceremony must be performed on a Wednesday. Seven days before, the bride chooses from among her young friends two, known as "sogdushés," who act as attendants, and never leave her alone, night or day, until the marriage is over; and under their superintendence the making of the wedding-garment is begun by the girls of the village, all of whom come in and assist. The groom likewise selects a couple of friends, called "bihors" or conductors, to keep him company during the week and see him safely through the ceremony. On the Sabbath the parties attend synagogue in gala costume, and the young man is pelted with almonds and raisins when he is called to the reading of the law. After prayers the groom, attended by the "bihors" and all the bachelors of the neighbouring villages, goes round to the houses of the residents and formally asks the gentlemen to the ceremony of Wednesday. The bride, attended by her "sogdushés" and all the unmarried girls in the place, calls upon the ladies and, in like manner, invites them to the wedding festivities. The spinsters who form her retinue return with her to her father's house, and take up their quarters there until the day after the marriage. Every morning they go in a body on to the roof of the house, and, facing south, chant certain ancient Tartar love-songs; in the afternoon they accompany the bride in paying her last maiden visits to her near relatives. On the eve of the wedding a grand dinner is given by the friends of the family, at which the bridegroom is not present. After eating and drinking, the party form in procession and go to the bride's house, carrying with them all the presents her *fiancée* has reserved for her. In front march the young men of the village, bearing lighted torches; then come the musicians, and the senior married woman bearing on her head a huge brazen cooking cauldron containing a number of live cocks and some flour. The other married ladies follow, similarly laden with brazen kettles containing "tshurek," cakes of unleavened bread; and the rear is brought up by more torch-bearers and an armed escort. Arrived at their destination, the young lady's relatives come out to meet them. The cocks in the cauldron are killed by cutting their throats, the threshold is sprinkled with blood, fires are lighted outside, the fowls are popped into the pots ready for them, smoked meats are added, and in no time an *al fresco* supper is spread. Then there is a dance; and then the bride is conducted to her room by the married women, and her hands and fingers, feet and toes, are stained a vivid red.

Early on the wedding morning the "bihors," with an escort of musicians, go round to the dwellings of all such recently married women as have not yet been outside their houses—for a new-married woman must not stir abroad until fetched to a wedding—and conduct them to the bridegroom, who is waiting to receive them. There they go through a mimic performance representing the wooing of an ardent lover and the retiring bashfulness of the maid; and then, seizing the young man, they cut off the curls he wears as a bachelor. He now mounts a spirited horse, and, followed by his friends, all likewise mounted, rides through the townlet (every one pelting him with flour as he passes) and makes for the nearest running stream. Here he bathes, and is then attired in a gorgeous silken robe; some earth being scattered over his head as a reminder of the mourning that should ever be observed to commemorate the destruction of Jerusalem. He then asks, "Who will tell the bride I am ready?" A half-score of the young men with him jump into the saddle



and ride into the "aul" as for their lives. The first who reaches the bride receives a silken kerchief, which he ties round his horse's neck, the second a couple of fowls, and the third a flagon of wine. The bridegroom returns more slowly; and the women come to meet him, bronze cauldrons on their heads containing unleavened cakes in which are stuck lighted tapers. They escort him to the bride's residence singing a wild Tartar song with a strange refrain, "Or atlan atlan giow." He is received by his father-in-law, conducted to a seat of honour, and his mother-in-law invests him with a "papacha" or high fur cap, a silver girdle, and a brocaded silk kerchief, amid loud cries of "Goi shabash"—the Tartar equivalent of "Good luck."

Now the procession to the synagogue is formed. The musicians and mummerys are ready outside, and the torch-bearers in waiting. The bride is brought out attired in a gorgeous red silken robe and veiled. Her hair and eyebrows are dyed, and her face painted with stripes of colour forming a sort of pattern. Her hair is done up in a long tail, and worn in a silk bag hanging down her back. She is mounted on a white horse, which is led by her youngest male relative, and a canopy of silk is held over her. Her maids, the "sogdushés," ride behind her, then the bridegroom and his men. In this order they march to the synagogue, drums beating, the cymbals in front clashing, and the armed members of the cavalcade firing off their guns as they go along. The rabbi chants the customary seven blessings and reads the marriage contract; after which the bride is conducted in the same manner to her future home, where her mother receives her with a shower of rice. Now she jumps over a piece of iron laid across the threshold, and two glasses are handed to her, one containing oil the other honey. She dips her finger in these and anoints the right post of the door with oil and the left with honey. Her brother then leads her into the middle of the guest-chamber, and the pair dance the "leshghak," a solemn dance of mystic significance. Wine and spirits are handed round, and the health of the youthful couple is drunk. The bride is then conducted to her room by the "sogdushés" and unmarried girls, who never for a moment leave her, and the groom and his friends make merry until sunset.

In the evening the new-married people entertain all the Jewish residents of the place at an open-air supper. To provide for this every householder sends round three cakes of unleavened bread, seven eggs, and a piece of meat. Relations furnish wine, spirits, sweetmeats, and tobacco. Tables are extemporized under the trees round the "saklya" or central dwelling, or in the courtyard; a temporary roof of lattice-work is set up and covered with branches of trees; torches are stuck in every available corner, and lanterns are lighted by the score—for oil is cheap. When the guests arrive they are ushered into the "guest-room," where the bridegroom is seated on the floor, with a silk mantle spread out; and on this the customary presents are placed as they are brought in. The "shamas," or a "buffoon," stands by; and as the gifts are set down he announces the name of the donor, adding some humorous observation of his own among the articles and their possible or probable uses. The first present is always that of the groom's mother, and is always the same: three coloured "shurek" loaves, three wax-lights, three eggs, and three apples in each of which a coin is placed. Similar gifts are made to the bride, who sits in her own room surrounded by her maids. By the time the reception is over the supper is ready; and the guests find the tables spread with the usual introductory trifles—fruit, onions, garlic, and unleavened bread, substantial dishes of soup with flour-balls in vinegar and garlic, pilau with sheep-fat and raisins, beef stewed with garlic and sour berries, compotes of suet, raisins, plums, and honey, and other Caucasio-Jewish delicacies. After supper come music and dancing. At midnight a pause is made; the "sogdushés" leave the bride, and the husband is conducted to the bridal chamber. Soon, however, he returns to the guests, who make a night of it, while the young wife entertains her maiden friends in her own apartments.

This sort of thing goes on for seven days, and only then are the young married people left to themselves.

#### MR. BLACKMORE'S NEW NOVEL.\*

"SPRINGHAVEN" is one of the best of Mr. Blackmore's stories. It is the chronicle of a fishing-village on the Sussex coast during the three or four years of national anxiety which preceded Trafalgar. The great man of Springhaven—a place not very difficult to identify—is a certain Admiral Darling, the brave and simple-hearted father of a pretty shrew named Dolly, likewise Horatia, after a very famous godfather. Nelson soon appears on the scene, for a twofold purpose. He has to be coaxed into the promise of a lieutenantcy for Blyth Scudamore—pattern of the frank, gallant, susceptible tar—who will prove the truest of Dolly's too numerous suitors; and, further, to point out to Admiral Darling that, if the French are in earnest with their invasion scheme, they could select no better landing-place than Springhaven itself. Almost simultaneously the idea had occurred to Caryl Carne, heir of an ancient line of squires, to whom nothing remained but a ruinous castle and heavily mortgaged estates. The son of a French mother who had quarrelled with her husband, he had been brought up as a Frenchman and imbued with a bitter hatred of his native land. So the commencement of the tale finds him in the position of confidential agent to the First Consul, whose designs for the subjugation of England he is furthering in divers secret ways. For one thing, he sets himself to win the heart of Dolly—partly because he likes her, and partly in the hope of obtaining access to her father's official papers; the Admiral having been entrusted

with the defence of the coast-line from Beachy Head to Selsey Bill. Briefly, in the sense in which Satan has been called the hero of "Paradise Lost," Caryl Carne is the hero of this stirring romance; and he is so skilfully presented as always to excite our interest and never our sympathy. Here we must say that Mr. Blackmore has successfully avoided both the Scylla and the Charybdis of historic fiction. He has refrained from inventing incidents on the extravagant scale of Dumas, which had a perilous tendency to degenerate into the grotesque: as, for instance, in the packing up of Monck and the despatch of that worthy per parcels' delivery to the address of Charles Stuart. Nor, on the other hand, does he belittle the actors in his story by exhibiting them in the midst of events which we feel they would have been powerless to control. Thus, to cite the failure of a master, the plottings of the accomplished "Devereux" suggest nothing more forcible than the proverbial action of the fly upon the wheel. It is otherwise with the intrigues of a bold traitor at the critical moment of the duel between England and Napoleon, when the supply of a piece of timely information to the enemy might have sufficed to determine the issue. We have to bear in mind that not one of our naval experts believed England herself to be seriously menaced: a fact, however, which the publication of the Napoleon correspondence has since placed beyond dispute.

With the knowledge that comes of sympathy Mr. Blackmore has drawn anew the various types which illustrate the English character of that day, and shows what sort of a nation it was that baffled the Continent in arms. There is a fine portrait, too, of the extraordinary man who played Hannibal to our Rome. But is it correct to imply that Napoleon rode well? That was not the opinion of those excellent judges the Mamelukes. While on the subject of details, we are inclined to object to Nelson's being made to say that "the rule had been always to send him where there were many kicks but few coppers." The sentiment might well have found utterance, but not in the slang of democratized society. Far in advance of her age, too, was the young lady who thought it "a shame" that she should not be allowed to ride on Sundays. It never entered into the heads of our great-grandmothers to question the eternal fitness of accepted Sunday ordinances. Generally, however, these good folk of 1805 do speak and act with fidelity to their true selves, and forbear to anticipate the philosophy of a later generation. Assuredly the Marquess of Southdown, as he appears at a patriotic banquet, belongs to his own time:—"A very large man, with a long brocaded coat of ruby-coloured cloth and white satin breeches, a waistcoat of primrose plush, emblazoned with the union-jack (then the popular device) in gorgeous silks with a margin of bright gold, and a neckcloth, pointed and plaited in with the rarest lace, worth all the rest put together—what a pity it seemed that such a man should get drunk, or at any rate try so hard to do it." That was one side of his lordship's personality; for his political principles and quiet but effective assertion of them, see an eloquent passage in the fourteenth chapter of the third volume—not, indeed, to be read without a pang of regret for the irrecoverable past. In Parson Twemlow we have an excellent specimen of the country clergyman of eighty years since: possibly as useful a member of society as some of his busier successors. Another clever sketch is that of Zebedee Tugwell, the fisherman, who embodies the popular conservative element which has always been a force in the commonwealth. The credit of English womanhood is well sustained by Faith Darling, whose constancy merited a more conspicuous reward. Yet it is not to be denied that this admirable story runs on to satisfactory conclusions: including a hope of happiness for the repentant Dolly, and for the arch-conspirator a punishment at once curiously appropriate and complete.

#### THE ITALIAN ARMY.

THE most recent issue of "Die Europäischen Heere der Gegenwart" enables us to form an idea of the military strength which Italy could, in the event of a conflict, place at the disposal of her allies in Central Europe. Like the Russian Opolchenie, the Italian territorial militia is not sufficiently organized to be taken into account; and even the mobile militia, or landwehr, is not yet complete.

	Officers.	Men.
Standing army on a war footing.....	16,928	854,030
Mobile militia .....	2,338	315,486
Territorial militia .....	5,442	1,202,442
Total.....	24,708	2,371,958

The field troops in first line would thus consist of the standing army and mobile militia, numbering 19,226 officers and 1,169,516 men, accompanied by 1,048 guns: a strength which corresponds to that assigned to Austria-Hungary approximately, except that the empire possesses 1,679 guns and 32,785 officers. It would seem from this that the Italian army is dangerously under-officered. It is also very weak in cavalry, and could place only 15,800 in the field against the 63,193 sabres of France. Lieutenant-Colonel Vogt speaks in high terms of the efficiency of the Italian troops, especially of the Bersaglieri and Alpini; the latter being composed of mountaineers specially trained for the defence of the frontier, and, like the cavalry of most other Great Powers, always kept on a war footing. "It would be difficult," he writes, "to see elsewhere than in an Italian regiment so many extremely powerful fellows as are to be found among these choice troops. It is striking, too, how many martial forms are to be seen among their officers. One beholds among them neither spectacles nor *pincenes*, and, what is still more amazing, no corpulent gentlemen. It is true that it would be difficult for them to get stout, considering the sort of duty they have to perform." It appears that they are sometimes made to manœuvre at the double for a couple of hours together.

\* "Springhaven: A Tale of the Great War." By Richard Doddridge Blackmore. Three vols. Second Edition. (Sampson Low and Co.)



## THE ST. JAMES'S GAZETTE. FOURTH EDITION.

### THE CRIMES BILL.

The following is an outline of the main provisions of the Bill to make better provision for the prevention and punishment of crime in Ireland which Mr. Balfour has asked leave to introduce in the House of Commons:—

1. Magistrates may examine witnesses on oath, even in cases where no person is charged before them with the commission of the crime which is the subject of inquiry. (This provision was contained in the Crimes Act of 1882.)
2. The jury system is abolished altogether for certain classes of crime punishable by a limited term of imprisonment. In other words, two stipendiary magistrates are to have summary jurisdiction, and may impose sentences not exceeding six months' hard labour for any of the following offences:—Criminal conspiracy, boycotting, rioting, offences under the Whiteboy Acts, assaulting officers of the law, taking forcible unlawful possession, or inciting to any of the foregoing offences.
3. In jury trials the venue may be changed, on the certificate of the Attorney-General that a fairer trial can be had in some other place in Ireland. (This provision was contained in the Act of 1882.) A prisoner, however, is to have a right to appeal against any proposed change of venue.
4. In jury trials, either the Attorney-General or the prisoner may demand a special jury.
5. In cases of murder, attempt to murder, aggravated crimes of violence, arson, or breaking or firing into dwelling-houses, the Attorneys-General for England and Ireland together may certify that a fairer trial can be had in England, and in such case, subject to the prisoner having a right of appeal against the proposed change of venue, the trial shall be held in England accordingly; the State to pay the expenses of conveying the prisoner, his witnesses, solicitor, and counsel to England.
6. These enactments are only to apply to such districts of Ireland as may be proclaimed by the Lord-Lieutenant.
7. The Lord-Lieutenant in Council will have power to declare it an offence against the Act to have anything to do with an association formed for the purpose of the commission of crime, or of encouraging or enabling persons to commit crime, or of inciting to intimidation, or of interfering with the administration of the law or the maintenance of order. In the event of the Lord-Lieutenant making such a proclamation, it must be laid on the table of Parliament (if Parliament be not sitting it must be specially summoned) within seven days, and, if disapproved by either House, it will have no force. The Lord-Lieutenant, in making such a proclamation, may limit its application to certain districts.
8. The Act is to be permanent.

Mr. Gladstone will resume the debate on the Bill this evening, the adjournment having been moved last night on his behalf. It is said that the Liberal and Home Rule members intend to carry on the debate, unless they are stopped by the cloture, till Monday or Tuesday of next week. Mr. Dillon's speech, which lasted over three hours last night, is understood to be an indication of the policy which the Irish party intend to pursue. Mr. Sexton, it is stated, is prepared to speak for four hours. The Irish Conservative members held their usual meeting yesterday. Those present agreed not to take any prominent part in the discussion on the motion for leave to bring in the Bill, but to reserve themselves for the second reading. A meeting of the Liberal Unionist party will be held at the house of Lord Hartington on Thursday, to consider the provisions of the Bill. According to the *Daily Telegraph* Lord Hartington will, on this occasion, state that, personally, he generally approves of the proposed measure, and will suggest that the Liberal Unionist party should assist the Government in their efforts to restore order in Ireland.

Our Dublin correspondent telegraphs:—The utmost anxiety was evinced in Dublin last night and this morning by the prominent Nationalists to ascertain the nature of the new Coercion Bill introduced by the Government. At the Nationalist newspaper offices quite a stir was produced by the inquiries made as the debate was coming through by telegraph; and the great demonstration proceeding in the city in honour of Father Ryan, the second priest to be committed to prison to-day for contempt of court for refusing to answer questions in the Bankruptcy Court relative to the Plan of Campaign, added to the prevailing excitement. While the Crimes Bill has greatly exasperated the Nationalists, the Loyalists are rejoiced. Indeed, they are pleasantly surprised that the Bill deals so vigorously with the disorders they complain of, and dispels that dissatisfaction which had freely been expressed by them at the want of courage they considered was being displayed by the Administration. Nationalists reiterate the old prophecy of crime and secret conspiracy as a sequel to this new measure of repression.

The *Freeman's Journal's* London correspondent observes that the Bill has aroused the indignation of the Gladstonians to a remarkable pitch. Leading members among Mr. Parnell's following received last night numerous pledges of unwavering assistance from the Gladstonian ranks, and there is no mistaking the fiercely earnest spirit in which these pledges are made. I hear that the rank-and-file of both Radical and Liberal Unionists are disposed to object to the proposed transfer of cases to England. They look upon it as a most dangerous innovation and as useless as dangerous.

The London correspondent of the *Dublin Daily Express* says he hears that the Chief Secretary is now under the strictest police protection. His private residence is practically surrounded by plain-clothes policemen.

### THE IRISH LAND QUESTION.

The Committee of the Cabinet on the Irish land question, consisting of Lord Salisbury, Mr. Smith, Lord Ashbourne, Mr. Goschen, Mr. Matthews, and Mr. Balfour, together with Lord Cadogan, who is to introduce the Government Land Bill in the House of Lords on Thursday evening, met at the Foreign Office at noon to-day.

### THE EMPEROR WILLIAM.

A Reuter's telegram from Berlin says that the Emperor William was up yesterday from half-past eleven in the morning until seven o'clock in the evening. His Majesty slept well last night.

### MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Mr. Chamberlain has declined the invitation to speak at Falkirk, having decided not to address any public meetings during his tour in Scotland, except at Ayr and Edinburgh.

### DEFECTIVE CUTLASSES.—THE COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

The report of the Committee on Cutlasses and Cutlass Sword-Bayonets supplied to the Royal Navy was issued this morning. Having examined minutely into the circumstances attending various issues of arms from 1841, the Committee express the opinion that the original design of the Martini-Henry cutlass sword-bayonet of 1871 was deficient in strength and altogether inadequate to resist such vertical pressure as it would be subjected to when used as a bayonet fixed on a rifle. The examination into the conversion of certain arms to new designs strongly illustrates the disadvantages which arise from the periodical change of the superintending and other officers of the manufacturing departments at the end of a term of office, when they have just learned their business. The Committee further believe that the tests to which these converted weapons were subjected were wholly inadequate. Finally, the Committee report that they have no reason to doubt the efficiency of any cutlasses and cutlass sword-bayonets supplied to the navy prior to 1871; that they believe the converted cutlasses and cutlass sword-bayonets, pattern 1871, with which the navy is now for the most part armed, are absolutely inefficient, untrustworthy, and unfit for service. The Committee has had abundant evidence that the arms are badly designed, the metal in them being unskillfully distributed; that they are thus inherently too weak to stand the vertical strain which thrusting weapons should endure without bending, and that from want of proper temper they are too soft for efficient service.

On the 1st of March the following memorandum was handed to the Secretary of State for War by Sir Hussey Vivian, president of the Committee:—

On leaving Enfield this day the Cutlass Committee came to the following resolution:—"That the Committee are unanimously of opinion that the converted 25½-inch cutlasses and cutlass sword-bayonets now in use in the navy should be immediately withdrawn, and that the old unaltered cutlasses, of which 30,000 are in store at Weedon, should be issued to the navy. That if the triangular bayonet will fit the Martini-Henry rifles in use in the navy, the requisite number should at once be issued; otherwise that the Enfield Martini sword-bayonet should be issued to replace the converted cutlass sword-bayonet, which they recommend should be withdrawn. That the cutlasses and sword-bayonets should be sharpened and pointed before they are issued."

### DEPARTURE OF THE QUEEN FOR THE CONTINENT.

The Queen, accompanied by Prince and Princess Henry of Battenberg, left Windsor by special train on the South-Western Railway at 10.5 this morning for Portsmouth, en route for Cherbourg and Cannes. A number of spectators assembled along the Datchet-road, outside the railway station, to witness her Majesty's departure. The train arrived at Portsmouth at noon. At the level crossing at the Harbour Station, through which the train passed, a large number of persons had assembled in order to catch a glimpse of the Queen. Her Majesty was sitting near one of the windows, and repeatedly bowed in response to the salutations made. On the train arriving on the south railway jetty, alongside which the royal yacht *Victoria and Albert* was lying, her Majesty alighted, and, being received by Admiral Sir George Willis, passed on board the *Victoria and Albert*, on the deck of which the officers and crew were drawn up. All the vessels in commission ran up masthead colours, and on board the flagship *Duke of Wellington* a guard was mustered on the poop. As soon as the royal party had gone on board a signal was made that the Queen would not leave the harbour until one o'clock.

A telegram from Malta says that her Majesty's ironclad *Dreadnought*, with Admiral the Duke of Edinburgh and Prince George of Wales on board, left there yesterday in company with her Majesty's ironclads *Thunderer*, *Colossus*, and *Agamemnon*, and proceeded to Cannes, where the fleet will remain during the Queen's stay there.

### MR. CHAMBERLAIN AND THE EAST WORCESTERSHIRE LIBERAL COUNCIL.

The annual meeting of the council of the East Worcestershire Liberal Association was held last evening at King's Norton, when it was stated that the balance-sheet showed a deficit of £48, which Mr. Allcock attributed to the fact that several gentlemen, amongst whom were Mr. Joseph Chamberlain and Mr. Arthur Chamberlain, had withdrawn their subscriptions because they did not agree with the policy of the Executive. Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, in withholding his subscription, wrote as follows:—

Prince's-gardens, S.W., Feb. 9, 1887.

Sir,—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 4th inst., which has only just reached me. In reply I beg to say that my subscription to the association was always paid in advance, and no responsibility can have been incurred on the faith of it. When the time came for renewing it I decided, in the present state of Liberal politics, to suspend my subscriptions. I am informed that at the last general election you, as president of the East Worcestershire Liberal Association, were willing to offer yourself as candidate in opposition to the sitting member, and that you even appointed an agent with this object. If the statement which has been made to me is correct I cannot understand the propriety of your present application to me to find money which may be hereafter employed in pursuance of a policy which I have publicly declared to be in my opinion fraught with danger to the best interests of the country.—Yours, etc., JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN.

### THE CENTRAL CHAMBER OF AGRICULTURE AND THE RAILWAY RATES BILL.

The Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture met to-day at the Society of Arts, Adelphi, Lord Ebrington in the chair. Major Craigie read letters from the Prime Minister, the First Lord of the Treasury, and the Agricultural Department of the Privy Council, in reply to a resolution of the chamber recommending the formation of a separate department of agriculture. Lord Salisbury stated that the suggestion should receive the attentive consideration of the Government. Sir Richard Paget, M.P., moved the adoption of a report of the Railway Rates Committee as to the Railway and Canal Traffic Bill. He stated that the Committee deprecated the double appeal permitted by the Bill; and were of opinion that provision should be made for truck and train rates, and strongly objected to the definition of terminals; the undue preferences which might be legalized; and the principle of group rates. Great amendments were required in those respects; and if these were not made they had better have no Bill at all, and he should feel it his duty to oppose the Bill in Parliament. The motion was, after some discussion, agreed to unanimously, as was the following resolution:—"That this council resolves to offer the most strenuous opposition to the second sub-section of Clause 25, which might have the effect of legalizing undue preference."

### GLASGOW UNIVERSITY.

Lord Lytton has been selected as the Conservative candidate for the Lord Rectorship of Glasgow University, in opposition to Lord Rosebery. The election will be fought on political grounds.



## SUPPOSED REVOLT AT SILISTRIA.

According to a despatch in the Vienna *Tagblatt*, a new plot was discovered in Philippopolis on Saturday, and 200 persons have been arrested. A despatch was received in Vienna yesterday from Calarasci, in Roumania, to the effect that heavy rifle-firing was heard on the Danube shore, opposite Silistria, and it is believed that there has been a new revolt in the Silistria garrison.

## THE CHARGES AGAINST THE CORPORATION.

The Committee appointed by Parliament to inquire into charges of malversation against the Corporation of the City of London met again to-day; Lord Hartington presiding. Mr. Blake, assistant clerk to Colonel Heywood, and employed in the Engineer's Office of the Corporation, was further examined by Mr. Bradlaugh as to having sent from that office forged tickets for the St. James's Hall meeting of the Municipal Reform League. The witness said he believed he had supplied to him four tickets altogether, and as far as he recollected he obtained them in the clerk's office. Colonel Sewell was frequently in that office. During six or seven weeks after issuing these tickets he was in frequent communication with the Post-office relative to some of the letters which had been sent out; but during that period he had taken no pains to fix the person from whom he had received the tickets. He would not swear that Colonel Sewell had not given him the tickets; he had no recollection. Nor did he remember Mr. Scott having seen him. He could not say whether or not he had seen others in possession of these tickets. His memory was not very good. He certainly had not seen a hundred tickets.

## COMMITTAL OF FATHER RYAN.

In the Dublin Court of Bankruptcy to-day, Father Ryan, on declining to answer the question as to whether he had received money from Moroney, a bankrupt under the Plan of Campaign, was committed to prison by Judge Boyd.

## THE HOXTON MURDER.

On the application of Mr. Charles Mathews, the trial of Thomas William Curriel for the Hoxton murder was fixed to commence to-morrow at the Old Bailey.

## ILLNESS OF THE DUCHESS OF NORFOLK.

The Duchess of Norfolk, who was so dangerously ill yesterday that it was thought necessary to administer the last sacrament, is slightly better this morning. Her Grace's condition has lessened the anxiety which was felt yesterday.

## TRAGEDY AT LEE.

A tragedy was committed last evening at Lee, in Kent. It appears that a young man, named Arthur Duffield, the sweetheart of a Miss Allan, a dressmaker, arrived at Lee by train, and gave an errand-boy twopenny to call Miss Allan out from her work. Soon afterwards, while they were walking on the Leyland-road, he made, it appears, a desperate attempt to cut Miss Allan's throat, but succeeded in only severely wounding her. She was taken into her employers', and at ended to by Dr. Williams, of Lee, and removed to Guy's Hospital in a dangerous condition, with little hope of recovery. Duffield was subsequently found at midnight, in a field two hundred yards distant, with his head nearly severed from his body, and a razor was lying near. Jealousy is supposed to be the cause.

## A JUDGE ON THE USE OF THE REVOLVER.

At the Old Bailey to-day, Louis Webb, a barman, pleaded guilty to the charge of shooting his sweetheart at Bow and afterwards attempting to commit suicide. The wounds inflicted upon the young woman were not of a serious character; but the prisoner was in hospital eight weeks, having shot himself in the mouth. Mr. Justice Grantham said this frequent use of the revolver must be put a stop to, and, if the Government could not prevent the general carrying of such deadly weapons, the law itself must try what it could do. This use of the revolver was one of the great curses of the country; it was a public disgrace and scandal which must be stopped. He doubted whether he ought not to send the prisoner to a long term of penal servitude, and he could not pass a less sentence than five years' penal servitude. The prisoner: You had better hang me at once. The accused, who commenced to cry and call out, was hurriedly removed from the court, and two women in the gallery also began to scream. One of them fainted away, and both were carried from the court.

## EXTRAORDINARY CASE OF PROLONGED SLEEP.

An extraordinary case of catalepsy has occurred at a restaurant in Soho. It appears that on Tuesday a Frenchman named Chauffat, who had in his possession 800 fr. (£32), came to the hotel. He went out that night, and returned on Thursday morning in a cab and went to bed, and has remained in a trance from that time up to the present. He appears to have been robbed of his money and a gold watch and chain. In his possession was found a card in French, the following being a translation:—"In actual treatment at Salpêtrière Hospital, Boulevard de l'Hôpital, Paris. If any accident occurs to me—any nervous seizure, prolonged sleep, or similar ailment—kindly send me immediately to the hospital, where all expenses will be paid.—Paris, December 26, 1886." Then follows the man's name, "Chauffat," and "at the request of Dr. Charcot," showing that he has been a patient of that physician. Cases of prolonged catalepsy are very exceptional, and an attack is generally sudden. While in this state the person affected is sometimes unconscious of what is going on around him, but cannot move. An attack may last, according to medical authorities, six weeks or longer. The recovery is as sudden as the attack.

## THIS DAY'S RACING.

## NORTHAMPTON.

STAND PLATE. (Five furlongs.)—Miss Alice f. (F. Barrett), 1. Icen (Goater), 2. Two started. Betting: 100 to 15 on Miss Alice f. The winner objected to for not drawing weight on returning to scale.

## PUNCESTOWN.

KILDARE HUNT CUP. (About three miles.)—Mountjoy, 1. Queen's Lancer, 2. Muckross, 3. Eight started. Betting: 5 to 1 agst Mountjoy.

## THIS DAY'S MONEY MARKET.

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

The demand for money in the open market is fairly active, and as the supply is short rates are firmly maintained at  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to 2 per cent. for short loans and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. for discount.

Quarter past Two.

The Stock Markets are weak, with certain exceptions, on the general course of business being interfered with by the progress of the Settlement. The English Funds have shared in the dulness, and several of the Home Railways show a decline. American Securities are firm on the renewal of activity in New York; but Grand Trunk of Canada stocks are flat on the supply of stock having increased. Mexican Railway stocks are also weak, the traffic return being disappointing. The gross receipts for the week amount to £11,200. Foreign Government Securities are steady but quiet.

The following are the changes as compared with yesterday's closing prices:—  
In the English Funds, Consols for money have declined  $\frac{1}{4}$  to 101 $\frac{1}{4}$  to 101 $\frac{1}{2}$  and 1-16 for the account (April) to 101 13-16 to 101 15-16. Reduced and New Three per Cents. have declined  $\frac{1}{4}$  to 100 $\frac{1}{4}$  to 100 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; but New Two-and-a-Half per Cents. are unchanged at 88 $\frac{1}{4}$  to 89 $\frac{1}{4}$ .

In Home Railways, Brighton A has fallen  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Chatham Ordinary  $\frac{1}{4}$ , the Preference  $\frac{1}{4}$ , North-Western  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sheffield A  $\frac{1}{4}$ , North-Eastern  $\frac{1}{4}$ , and South-Eastern Deferred  $\frac{1}{4}$ ; but Lancashire and Yorkshire have risen  $\frac{1}{4}$ , and District  $\frac{1}{4}$ . In Canadian and Foreign Railways, Grand Trunk Ordinary has fallen  $\frac{1}{4}$ , the First Preference  $\frac{1}{4}$ , the Second  $\frac{1}{4}$ , the Third  $\frac{1}{4}$ , the Guaranteed  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Mexican Ordinary  $\frac{1}{4}$ , the First Preference  $\frac{1}{4}$ , and the Second  $\frac{1}{4}$ ; but Canadian Pacific has risen  $\frac{1}{4}$ .

In Foreign Government Bonds, Argentine Hard Dollar Bonds have risen  $\frac{1}{4}$ , French Three per Cent. Rentes  $\frac{1}{4}$ , the Four-and-a-Half per Cents.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Hungarian Gold Rentes  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Italian Five per Cents. of 1861  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Russian of 1873  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Spanish Four per Cents. 1-16, and Turkish Tribute  $\frac{1}{4}$ ; but Brazilian of 1865 has fallen  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Mexican Old Three per Cents.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Peruvian of 1870 and 1872  $\frac{1}{4}$ , and Uruguay Unified  $\frac{1}{4}$ .

In American Securities, New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio First Mortgage Bonds have risen  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Central Pacific  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Milwaukee  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Denver  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Lake Shore  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Louisville  $\frac{1}{4}$ , New York Central  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Erie  $\frac{1}{4}$ , the Second Mortgage  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Ontario  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Ohio  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Reading  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Union Pacific  $\frac{1}{4}$ , and Wabash Preference  $\frac{1}{4}$ .  
The premium on gold at Buenos Ayres has advanced to 33.10 per cent.

## ENGLISH GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.

Consols	101 $\frac{1}{4}$	101 $\frac{1}{2}$
Ditto Account (April)	101 13-16	101 15-16
Reduced Three per Cents.	100 $\frac{1}{4}$	100 $\frac{1}{2}$
New Three per Cents.	100 $\frac{1}{4}$	100 $\frac{1}{2}$
New Two-and-a-Half per Cents.	88 $\frac{1}{4}$	89 $\frac{1}{4}$
India Stock Four per Cent.	101 $\frac{1}{4}$	101 $\frac{1}{2}$
Ditto Three per Cent.	87 $\frac{1}{4}$	88
Ditto Four per Cent. Rupee Paper	69	69 $\frac{1}{4}$
Ditto $\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent. Rupee Paper	71 $\frac{1}{4}$	71 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bank of England Stock	293	295 ad
Metropolitan $\frac{3}{4}$ per Cent.	107 $\frac{1}{4}$	108

## COLONIAL GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.

Canada 4 per Cent. of 1910-35	105	106
N.S. Wales 4 p. C. of 1903-5-8-9-10	103 $\frac{1}{4}$	104 $\frac{1}{4}$
N. Zealand 4 per Cent. Cons. Ins.	97 $\frac{1}{4}$	98 $\frac{1}{4}$
Queensland 6 per Cent. 1891-96	106	118
S. Australian 4 p. C. of 1894-1916	99	100
Tasmanian 6 per Cent. of 1893-1901	106	120
Victoria $\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent. of 1904	105	108

## AMERICAN SECURITIES.

United States $\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent. Bonds	111 $\frac{1}{4}$	111 $\frac{1}{2}$
Ditto Four per Cent.	130 $\frac{1}{4}$	130 $\frac{1}{2}$
Virginia Funded Bonds	50 $\frac{1}{4}$	51 $\frac{1}{4}$
New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio First Mortgage Bonds	48 $\frac{1}{4}$	48 $\frac{1}{2}$
Central Pacific Shares	40 $\frac{1}{4}$	41 $\frac{1}{4}$
Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Paul	94	94 $\frac{1}{4}$
Denver and Rio Grande Shares	31	31 $\frac{1}{4}$
Illinois Shares	133	134
Lake Shore and Michigan Southern 100-dol. Shares	98 $\frac{1}{4}$	98 $\frac{1}{2}$
Louisville and Nashville 100-dol. Shares	67 $\frac{1}{4}$	67 $\frac{1}{2}$
New York Central Shares	115 $\frac{1}{4}$	116
New York, Lake Erie, & Western 100-dol. Shares	35 $\frac{1}{4}$	35 $\frac{1}{2}$
Ditto Preference Six per Cent	74	75
Ditto Second Mortgage Bonds	102 $\frac{1}{4}$	102 $\frac{1}{2}$
New York, Ontario, and Western Shares	19 $\frac{1}{4}$	19 $\frac{1}{2}$
Ohio and Mississippi Shares	30 $\frac{1}{4}$	30 $\frac{1}{2}$
Oregon and California Seven per Cent. Preference Shares	19 $\frac{1}{4}$	20
Pennsylvania Shares	60	60 $\frac{1}{4}$
Philadelphia and Reading Shares	20 $\frac{1}{4}$	20 $\frac{1}{2}$
Ditto General Mortgage Bonds	105 $\frac{1}{4}$	106
Union Pacific Shares	61 $\frac{1}{4}$	62 $\frac{1}{4}$
Wabash, St. Louis, and Pacific Ordinary Shares	18	18 $\frac{1}{4}$
Ditto 100-dol. Preference	31 $\frac{1}{4}$	32

## BRITISH AND FOREIGN RAILWAY STOCKS.

Caledonian	99 $\frac{1}{4}$	99 $\frac{1}{2}$
Great Eastern	68 $\frac{1}{4}$	68 $\frac{1}{2}$
Great Northern Ordinary	111 $\frac{1}{4}$	112 $\frac{1}{4}$
Ditto A	103 $\frac{1}{4}$	104
Great Western	136 $\frac{1}{4}$	136 $\frac{1}{2}$
Lancashire and Yorkshire	120	121
London and Brighton Ordinary	132	134
Ditto A	121 $\frac{1}{4}$	122 $\frac{1}{4}$
London, Chatham, & Dover Ord	24 $\frac{1}{4}$	24 $\frac{1}{2}$
Ditto $\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent. Preference	100 $\frac{1}{4}$	101 $\frac{1}{4}$
London and North-Western	164 $\frac{1}{4}$	164 $\frac{1}{2}$
London and South-Western	128	129
Manchester, Sheffield, & Lincoln	74	75
Ditto A	43	43 $\frac{1}{4}$
Metropolitan	111 $\frac{1}{4}$	112 $\frac{1}{4}$
Metropolitan District	42 $\frac{1}{4}$	42 $\frac{1}{2}$
Midland	124 $\frac{1}{4}$	125 $\frac{1}{4}$
North British	101 $\frac{1}{4}$	101 $\frac{1}{2}$
North-Eastern	153 $\frac{1}{4}$	154
North Staffordshire	93 $\frac{1}{4}$	94 $\frac{1}{4}$
South-Eastern Ordinary	129	131
Ditto Deferred	110 $\frac{1}{4}$	110 $\frac{1}{2}$
Grand Trunk of Canada Ordinary	14 $\frac{1}{4}$	15 $\frac{1}{4}$
Ditto First Preference Stock	81 $\frac{1}{4}$	81 $\frac{1}{2}$
Ditto Second Preference Stock	66 $\frac{1}{4}$	67
Ditto Third Preference Stock	36 $\frac{1}{4}$	37 $\frac{1}{4}$
Ditto Guaranteed	78 $\frac{1}{4}$	78 $\frac{1}{2}$
Canadian Pacific Shares	64	64 $\frac{1}{4}$
Buenos Ayres & Pac. 7 p. C. Shares	23 $\frac{1}{4}$	24 $\frac{1}{4}$
Ditto 7 p. C. Debentures	128	130
Lombardo-Venetian	7 $\frac{1}{4}$	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Mexican Ordinary	62	62 $\frac{1}{4}$
Ditto Eight per Cent. First Pref.	130 $\frac{1}{4}$	131 $\frac{1}{4}$
Ditto Six p. Cent. Second Pref	84	84 $\frac{1}{4}$
Ditto Six per Cent. Perpetual Debenture Stock	124	126

## MISCELLANEOUS SHARES.

Australian Agricultural	120	125
Anglo-Am. Brush Light (£3 paid)	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	3
Hudson's Bay	22 $\frac{1}{4}$	22 $\frac{1}{2}$
National Discount	10 $\frac{1}{4}$	11
Peninsular and Oriental Steam	61	63
Royal Mail Steam	36	38
Suez Canal	80 $\frac{1}{4}$	81 $\frac{1}{4}$

## FOREIGN STOCK MARKETS.

Argentine Six per Cent. of 1868	101	103
Ditto Six per Cent. of 1871	101	103
Ditto 6 p. Cent. Hard Dol. Bonds	74	75
Austrian Four p. Ct. Gold Rentes	89	91
Ditto Five per Cent. Silver	64	66
Brazilian Five per Cent. of 1865	99 $\frac{1}{4}$	100 $\frac{1}{4}$
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1871	95 $\frac{1}{4}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1875	99	100
Ditto $\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent. of 1883	92 $\frac{1}{4}$	93 $\frac{1}{4}$
Buenos Ayres Six per Cent. of 1870	101	103
Ditto Six per Cent. of 1873	101	103
Chilian $\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent. Conversion	99	100
Chinese Six p. Ct. of 1895, March	107	109
Ditto Six p. Cent. of 1895, June	108	110
Costa Rica 5 per Cent. Bonds A	69	70
Ditto B 4 p. Ct. now 5 p. Ct. 1888	62 $\frac{1}{4}$	64 $\frac{1}{4}$
Egyptian Three p. Ct. Guaranteed	98	98 $\frac{1}{4}$
Ditto Five p. Ct. State Domain	94 $\frac{1}{4}$	95
Ditto Four per Cent. Unified	74 $\frac{1}{4}$	74 $\frac{1}{2}$
Ditto Five per Cent. Preference	97 $\frac{1}{4}$	97 $\frac{1}{2}$
Ditto Four p. Ct. Daira Sanieh	72 $\frac{1}{4}$	72 $\frac{1}{2}$
Entre Rios 6 p. Ct. 1886	94	95
Ditto 6 p. Ct. Ry. Mortgage	94 $\frac{1}{4}$	95 $\frac{1}{4}$
French Three per Cent. Rentes	80 $\frac{1}{4}$	80 $\frac{1}{2}$
Ditto $\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent. of 1872	108	108 $\frac{1}{4}$
Greek Five per Cent. of 1870	81	83
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1881	62 $\frac{1}{4}$	63 $\frac{1}{4}$
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1884	61 $\frac{1}{4}$	62 $\frac{1}{4}$
Hungarian Gold Rentes of 1881	80	80 $\frac{1}{4}$
Italian Five per Cent. of 1861	95 $\frac{1}{4}$	96 $\frac{1}{4}$
Mexican Old Three per Cent.	28 $\frac{1}{4}$	28 $\frac{1}{2}$
Ditto of 1864	12 $\frac{1}{4}$	13
Norwegian Four per Cent. of 1880	103	105
Peruvian Six per Cent. of 1870	16	16 $\frac{1}{4}$
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1872	13 $\frac{1}{4}$	14
Portuguese Three per Cent.	54 $\frac{1}{4}$	54 $\frac{1}{2}$
Russian Five per Cent. of 1871	92	93
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1872	94	95
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1873	93 $\frac{1}{4}$	94 $\frac{1}{4}$
Ditto $\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent. of 1875	88	90
Santa Fe 5 p. Ct. N. C. Ry. Mort.	99	101
Ditto 5 p. Ct. Extensions Mort.	90	92
Spanish Four per Cent.	64 9-16	64 11-16
Ditto Two per Cent.	46	47
Swedish Four per Cent. of 1880	124	126
Turkish Six per Cent. Group 1	22	23
Ditto Nine per Cent.	2	2 $\frac{1}{4}$
Ditto Six & Five per Ct. " 3&4	13 $\frac{1}{4}$	13 $\frac{1}{2}$
Ditto $\frac{1}{2}$ p. Ct. Tribute Loan of 1871	73 $\frac{1}{4}$	73 $\frac{1}{2}$
Ditto Five per Cent. of 1854	94	96
Ditto Five per Cent. Defence	85 $\frac{1}{4}$	85 $\frac{1}{2}$
Uruguay Unified Five p. Ct. of 1883	56	56 $\frac{1}{4}$

## BANKS.

Anglo-Egyptian	16	17
City	18 $\frac{1}{4}$	19 $\frac{1}{4}$
Colonial	34	36
Consolidated	6 $\frac{1}{4}$	7 $\frac{1}{4}$
Imperial Ottoman	10	10 $\frac{1}{4}$
London and County	82 $\frac{1}{4}$	83 $\frac{1}{4}$
London and Westminster	61	65
London Joint Stock	36 $\frac{1}{4}$	37 $\frac{1}{4}$
National Provincial (£12 paid)	50	51
Union of London	35 $\frac{1}{4}$	37 $\frac{1}{4}$

## MINING SHARES.

Cape Copper	24 $\frac{1}{4}$	25 $\frac{1}{4}$
Indian Consolidated	8 $\frac{1}{4}$	8 $\frac{1}{2}$
Mason and Barry	8 $\frac{1}{4}$	8 $\frac{1}{2}$
Montana	8 $\frac{1}{4}$	9 $\frac{1}{4}$
Mysore Gold	6 $\frac{1}{4}$	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
Oreogum Gold	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
Richmond Consolidated	4 $\frac{1}{4}$	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Rio Tinto	10 15-16	11 1-16
St. John del Rey	57	62
Tharsus Sulphur	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
United Mexican	3	3 $\frac{1}{4}$

## TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE SECURITIES.

Anglo-American	34	35
Brazilian Submarine	10 $\frac{1}{4}$	11
Consolidated Telephone	34	36
Direct United States	8 $\frac{1}{4}$	9
Eastern	10 $\frac{1}{4}$	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
Eastern Extension	17 $\frac{1}{4}$	18
Globe Ordinary	5 $\frac{1}{4}$	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
Ditto Preference	12 $\frac{1}{4}$	12 $\frac{1}{2}$
India-rubber, Gutta-percha, and Telegraph Works	22	23
Oriental Telephone	3-16	5-16
Telegraph Construction	36	37
United Telephone	12 $\frac{1}{4}$	12 $\frac{1}{2}$
Western and Brazilian	7 $\frac{1}{4}$	7 $\frac{1}{2}$

## TRAMWAY SHARES.

Dublin	10 $\frac{1}{4}$	10 $\frac{1}{2}$ ad
Glasgow	12 $\frac{1}{4}$	13 $\frac{1}{4}$ ad
Liverpool Un. Tram and Omnibus	40 $\frac{1}{4}$	41 $\frac{1}{4}$ ad
London	19 $\frac{1}{4}$	20 $\frac{1}{4}$
London Street	19 $\frac{1}{4}$	20 $\frac{1}{4}$
North Metropolitan	20 $\frac{1}{4}$	21 $\frac{1}{4}$



## THE INTRODUCTION OF THE IRISH CRIME BILL.

## SPECIAL REPORT.

There was hardly a vacant seat anywhere in the House of Commons last night when Mr. Arthur Balfour rose, at a quarter to five o'clock, and moved for leave to introduce the Government Bill "to make better provision for the prevention and punishment of crime in Ireland." The House was crowded in every part, and of the compact row of ex-Ministers who fronted the right honourable gentleman on the other side of the table, no fewer than six, headed by Mr. Gladstone, were armed with pens and paper for the industrious taking of notes. Among the Parnellites, too, there were vigorous note-takers; though four of the Parnellite leaders who were together—Mr. Parnell himself, Mr. Sexton, Mr. Dillon, and Mr. Healy—sat with folded arms and affected a considerable amount of indifference to the whole business. The Treasury bench was full of her Majesty's Ministers, two of whom—the Home Secretary and the First Lord of the Admiralty—lent valuable assistance to Mr. Balfour as he proceeded with his speech; and just behind the Treasury bench, in his favourite corner-seat, sat Lord Randolph Churchill, just returned from his trip abroad.

## AN IRISH PLOT TO EMBARRASS MR. BALFOUR.

Mr. Balfour spoke for two hours and a quarter, and never was speech made under more embarrassing circumstances. It was soon made evident that, as the right honourable gentleman is believed to be of a sensitive, highly strung nervous temperament, an organized attempt was to be made to confuse and upset him; and such a series of rude and vulgar interruptions as he was subjected to has, perhaps, never before been introduced into a parliamentary debate. From beginning to end of his speech he was scarcely allowed to complete a sentence without some fierce denial or impatient challenge; some interjected question or brutal comment; or, failing these, a burst of derisive laughter. As a rule, the work of interrupting a Minister is left to the rank-and-file of the Parnellite party, who, to give them due credit, have elaborated the business till it has reached a scientific height; but this time—possibly because the occasion was recognized as one of supreme importance—Mr. Parnell himself, and the principal lieutenants who sat with him, were as noisy and eruptive as any, and positively left Dr. Tanner and some of the other light skirmishers of the party in the shade. But all this horse-play had only a slight effect. It is true that Mr. Balfour was at times visibly embarrassed, and that many of the notes with which he had prepared himself were thrown uselessly aside; but his unflinching temper never deserted him, his patience was never exhausted, and his courtesy survived even a two hours' incessant assault. But a more discreditable scene has seldom been witnessed in Parliament, and the intense satisfaction which Mr. Gladstone appeared to derive from it all through was as astonishing to his friends as to those who can hardly be reckoned among the number.

## THE CASE FOR THE BILL.

The first hour and forty minutes of his speech Mr. Balfour employed in making out a case for his Bill. He had no great tale of committed crime to unfold; for, since the Land League was merged in the National League, the processes of its promoters have changed, and, for actual crime, intimidation and terrorism have been substituted with even more striking results. But he showed that even crime was upon the increase, and that the cost of special police protection for individuals who are not in the good graces of the League amounts to no less than £55,000 a year. But his main contention was that the law is not in force over an important part of Ireland, and that the vacuum left by the absence of the ordinary law is filled up by a law which is not that of the Crown and Parliament, but is the law of the League. When he quoted copiously from the charges of the Irish judges to show the desperate state to which so much of Ireland has been reduced, the name of each judge was received with derision; and when he proceeded to point out that when crime occurred no witnesses could be got, or no juries would convict, there came frequent demands for particulars. Mr. Parnell interrupted him at one point to show that he was dealing, not with agrarian offences, but with crimes of all kinds. But Mr. Balfour's reply left no room for further protest; for he explained that when the witnesses in more than 420 cases out of 750 refuse to come forward to give evidence, the prevailing terrorism requires to be immediately dealt with, whether the crime is agrarian or not. The statement that jurors decline altogether to convict on the clearest evidence drew an enthusiastic cheer from Mr. Healy; but when Mr. Balfour naturally inferred the honourable gentleman's approval of such a state of things, Mr. Healy indignantly repudiated the inference—he had only "Orange" cases in his mind. Some of Mr. Balfour's facts were met by Mr. Sexton with the assertion that they were "not facts at all;" and, the cue thus being given, another Parnellite roundly denounced them as "falsehoods;" which led the Speaker to invite the co-operation of honourable members in "securing the proper conduct of orderly debate"—an appeal which did not, however, produce much good fruit. Mr. Parnell wanted Mr. Balfour's "authority" for his statements; but it was obvious that names which would render identification possible could not be given without invoking the speedy vengeance of the League; and Mr. Balfour declined to say more than that his information was "authentic," and that he gave it on his responsibility as a Minister of the Crown. Presently Mr. Healy declared that the right honourable gentleman's conduct in making "anonymous charges" was "disgraceful;" but Mr. Balfour was not to be moved from the line of duty he had imposed upon himself. When the right honourable gentleman proceeded to argue against Mr. Morley, that the League was not "an innocent trade-union," but worked in conjunction with "dark and secret societies, which employed dynamite and the dagger, their object anarchy, and their means assassination," he was of course met by a storm of denial and outcry; but he persisted, and went on to give numerous cases of the action of the League in boycotting. On the threshold of this part of his case there came a protest from Mr. William

Redmond which very nearly got that honourable gentleman into trouble. Mr. Redmond demanded that Mr. Balfour should, "in common honesty," give names, and persisted in standing up and reiterating his demand after the Speaker had ruled that "imputations of a want of common honesty" must not be made. However, the Speaker was patient, making every allowance for the honourable member's excited state; and a friend of Mr. Redmond's was discreet, and, by pulling his coat-tails, brought him to anchor, so that nothing serious came of it. When, among the boycotting cases, Mr. Balfour had to mention the conduct of a priest, the Parnellites were thrown into a great state of agitation, demanding the name and place, and shouting "A libel," "A slander on the Catholic Church," and so on. Presently, as the evidence accumulated, an English member, who was concealed in the obscure light beneath the gallery, rose to ask, with a perceptible sneer, whether the Chief Secretary was quoting evidence supplied by "the officials of Dublin Castle" or by "the *Times*' correspondent;" but Mr. Balfour carried the House with him when he expressed his surprise that any one should suppose he would quote "unauthenticated extracts" from the *Times*, or from any other source, as evidence on which to ask the House to give increased stringency to the law in Ireland. Of the many offences for which boycotting is enforced, a few may be culled from Mr. Balfour's list:—Not joining the National League, helping boycotted persons, being related to them, being related to Crown witnesses, driving the police, not voting for Nationalist candidates at poor-law guardian elections—these are a few. But the three most extraordinary instances of boycotting were the cases of the man who was punished for causing his wife to "change her religion" (which produced a Parnellite cry of "He is chaffing us!"), the man who was "suspected of having paid his rent," and the man who had "obtained compensation for being shot at." When the list was completed Mr. W. Redmond shouted to Mr. Balfour across the House, in his most withering tones, "Munchausen!" which provoked much laughter.

## THE PROVISIONS OF THE BILL.

The Chief Secretary spent the last half-hour of his speech in explaining and commenting on the provisions of the Bill. In brief they come to this:—Magistrates are to be allowed to examine witnesses on oath even where no person is charged with crime. In minor cases the jury system is to be abolished altogether, and two magistrates may by summary jurisdiction inflict six months' imprisonment for criminal conspiracy, boycotting, rioting, offences under the Whiteboy Acts, assaulting officers of the law, taking forcible and unlawful possession, and inciting (whether in a newspaper or otherwise) to these offences. Where there is reason to fear that a fair jury trial in a more serious case may not be got in one part of Ireland, the trial may be removed to another part, on the certificate of the Attorney-General for Ireland; and either the defendant or the Attorney-General may claim to have the case tried by a special jury. Where there is reason to fear that a fair trial cannot be got in Ireland at all, the case may be removed to England, with the concurrence of the English Attorney-General. This provision excited great wrath among the Irish members. Mr. Healy shouted "Send them to Belfast!" Another Irish member asked where the trials would take place in England; and a third suggested, in a deep tragedy voice, "at Aldershot!" The cases which may be removed to England are, however, confined to murder, attempt to murder, aggravated violence, arson, and breaking and firing into dwelling-houses; and all political cases—such as treason, treason-felony, sedition, and seditious libel—may not be removed from Ireland. But the provisions of the Bill are only to be enforced, not over the whole of Ireland, but only in such districts as may from time to time be proclaimed by the Lord-Lieutenant. Finally, the Lord-Lieutenant is to be allowed, if neither House of Parliament shall object by address to the Crown, but not otherwise, to make it an offence by proclamation to have anything to do with an association formed for the commission of crime, or for encouraging, aiding, promoting, or inciting to acts of violence or intimidation, or interfering in the administration of the law, or disturbing the maintenance of law and order. The Bill is to be permanent, and not temporary; for it is not proposed to "put it in the power of any Government to compel their successors to have to consider the condition of Ireland at times when it may be perfectly impossible through parliamentary exigencies to do it." Mr. Balfour closed his speech with a rebuke to the regular Opposition for not fortifying the Government in its attempt to deal with outrage and murder.

## MR. DILLON ON THE WAR-PATH.

Mr. Dillon followed with a speech lasting, with half an hour's interval while the Speaker quitted the chair, from twenty-five minutes past seven o'clock until twenty minutes to eleven. He declared in passionate tones that almost became a scream that the Bill should never pass; that the English people would never sanction it; and that if they did he would abandon public agitation altogether; for no man who had not "the heart of a slave" could ever submit to it. If it passed he would have to do one of two things, either "leave for ever a country where no Irishman could live except as a slave," or, if the Irish people were willing, he would be "proud and happy to lead them into battle." He ridiculed the case which had been made out for it. If he sat on the Treasury bench he could have made "ten times as strong a case for coercion himself;" which is probably true; but, then, Mr. Balfour has not the advantage of Mr. Dillon's special knowledge. After a lot of wild rhetoric of this sort, Mr. Dillon set himself to argue against the Bill and in favour of boycotting. Mr. Haldane, a Gladstonian Liberal, opposed the Bill, but was afraid it would pass. Lord Lynton, a Liberal Unionist, supported the Bill generally, but reserved his opinion on some of its details; and Mr. John Redmond brought the debate to a close for the night. On the motion of Mr. Illingworth the debate was adjourned until to-night, when Mr. Gladstone is expected to speak.

MESSRS. HATCHARD, 127, PICCADILLY, W., keep a large Stock of all the New, Standard, and Children's Books, Bibles, Prayer-Books, &c. Discount 3d. in the 1s. Libraries arranged.—[ADVT.]



## THE AFGHAN FRONTIER.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

ST. PETERSBURG, March 29.—The *Novoe Vremya* to-day states that the Anglo-Russian Commission which has been summoned to meet here for the final settlement of the Afghan frontier question will commence its sittings next week, by which time the Delegates of the two Powers concerned will have arrived.

## ITALY, GERMANY, AND AUSTRIA.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

ROME, March 29.—At a private meeting of the deputies of the Extreme Left, held yesterday, a resolution was adopted severely censuring the Government for coming to an understanding with Germany and Austria, who were described as the friends of the Vatican, and demanding the convocation of Parliament.

## ALSACE-LORRAINE.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

BERLIN, March 29.—The *Deutsches Tageblatt* to-day states that the Emperor has complied with the request of Herr von Hoffman, Minister of State for Alsace-Lorraine, to be allowed to retire into private life. Herr von Puttkamer, Under Secretary of State, will, until further notice, attend to the affairs of the Department.

## ATTACK UPON BRITISH OFFICERS BY ARABS.

Two officers, named Scofield and Leith, of the Welsh Regiment, now stationed in Cairo, while shooting near the Pyramid of Giza, accidentally wounded some Bedaween passing on camels, who alighted, attacked them, and seized their guns. One of the weapons went off accidentally in the scuffle, and carried away a Bedaween head. The officers retreated to a neighbouring village. The fellaheen joined the Bedaween in attacking them. The shekary attending the officers ran off and acquainted the police, who arrived just in time to prevent the Arabs from hanging the officers, who had been brutally ill-treated. Twenty prisoners and the officers were brought into Cairo by the police yesterday morning.

## THE WAR CORRESPONDENTS' MEMORIAL.

The memorial brass to the special correspondents who fell in the Soudan campaigns is now approaching completion, and will be placed in the crypt of St. Paul's Cathedral (by permission of the Dean and Chapter) in the course of the next three months. The memorial has been designed by Mr. Herbert Johnson, and is being executed by Mr. Gawthorpe, of 14, Long-acre. Its cost is being defrayed wholly by journalists, and we are asked to say that a considerable sum of money is needed before the fund can be closed. Journalists desirous of contributing should communicate with the honorary secretary, Mr. E. J. Wade, Savage Club, Savoy; or the honorary treasurer, Mr. James Walker, 65, Fleet-street.

## THE SOUDAN SLAVE TRADE.

The men forming the crews of captured slave-dhows brought into Suakim have been sentenced to five years' imprisonment and fifty lashes each. The flogging was publicly administered on parade yesterday morning. The native residents kept aloof during the proceedings, but the black troops appeared to be pleased with the punishment of the slave-dealers, and a good moral effect is anticipated. Her Majesty's ship *Albacore* will take a dhow containing the released slaves to Aden, where they will be handed over to the British authorities. It is believed that this course is highly desirable, and far less likely to cause evil impressions than a local distribution of the slaves.

## SUPERSTITION IN FRANCE.

An attempt to murder, prompted by superstition, under circumstances of the most ferocious atrocity, is reported from Saint-André (Haute-Garonne). A married woman named Dupeyron, who lived in the same house as her cousin, an unmarried woman named Solages, accused the latter of bewitching her daughter, who was lying ill. Suddenly she attacked her with a bludgeon, threw her down, and slashed at her fingers with a knife. She then trampled upon her victim, leaving her almost dead. A few minutes afterwards she returned from an upper room, in her best dress, and, again using her knife, cut a deep cross on each of her victim's hands. She told her that this would deprive her of any further evil-working power. She then undressed, and in an almost nude state subjected her cousin to an interrogatory, winding up with a challenge to declare whether she would relinquish her fiendish arts. The poor woman, who was speechless, merely nodded assent, and her wounds were then dressed by her assailant. The sufferer subsequently found strength to crawl to a neighbour's house, and the woman Dupeyron was given into custody. Her victim is not expected to recover.

## CRUELITIES OF THE TURTLE TRADE.

Lieut.-Colonel P. D. Trotter writes to the *Times* from the New Club, Edinburgh, the 25th of March:—"I am not acquainted with the habits of turtle, so am unaware to what extent the following treatment may be prejudicial to their comfort. As it is abhorrent to humanity, I think attention should be drawn to it. I returned lately from Jamaica in a ship in which there were over 100 of these reptiles, and by the time the survivors reached England they had been four and five weeks absolutely without food of any sort. For the first few days they lay upon the deck on their backs, their outstretched fins being trodden on and bruised by passers by; the shells of some were broken and cut through, exposing the flesh, and in many cases their eyes were knocked out, or in. After three days they were lowered by the steam-winch—some of them at that time weighing over 300 lb.—in couples, suspended by their fins, and stowed closely on the lower deck. Their deep-drawn sighs, the only remonstrance they make, and the appearance of their stomachs, all concave and hollowed out through starvation, were pitiable, and their loss of weight and evil condition would have touched the heart of an alderman. When too weak to move they were turned over face downwards, and all that had not been hove overboard dead during the latter part of the voyage were landed in a semi-dying state. The passengers, whose cabins were mostly on the main deck, annoyed by the fetid smell arising from these moribund creatures, signed, on sanitary grounds, a protest to the directors; but it seems to me a case in which the law should step in and insist on the turtle being killed before starting, when, stowed in an ice-room, they would arrive in far better condition than now."

## FENIAN THREATS OF "DYNAMITE, POISON, FIRE, AND KNIVES."

The address issued by Mr. Fitzgerald to the American Irish National League, of which he is the president, is variously construed as a summons to aid Mr. Parnell and as an appeal for funds with which to purchase dynamite. The *Tribune* reports the following remarks by a man named W. J. Knoud, at a meeting held at his residence, where Mr. Parnell's mother lived for several months before her return to England:—

While Mr. Parnell may be an able man, his usefulness has reached its limits. The work of the Irish Nationalists henceforth must be revolution with the aid of dynamite. (Applause.) The conscience of the world is with us; but that does not keep the Irish peasantry in their homes. Other weapons are required, weapons that science has put in our hands—dynamite and gunpowder. (Applause.) I like the manifesto; I don't care whether it was written by Fitzgerald, or Egan, or Sullivan. Our people throughout the world have been awaiting some such manly explosion for a long time. The Tories have declared war, and the League of America has taken up the gage of battle. You will not find any Irishman here in whom our people have ever placed confidence opposed to this view. How can we fight, do you ask? Look here (and he pointed to some old swords, guns, and revolvers which he brought back from the war, that were hanging around the room). Do you see these? We have given up attempting to fight England with such weapons; we will fight her now with dynamite, poison, knives, and fire, with "every weapon that the ingenuity of men can devise," to use the words with which the manifesto closes, if the Coercion Bill be passed. This continued persecution of Ireland has made dynamiters of our moderate men.

The *Tribune* says:—"Mr. Fitzgerald is really only the nominal head of the League in this country. Mr. Patrick Egan, the former president, still runs the machine. Mr. Fitzgerald and Mr. Egan both do business in the same town. If Irish sentiment, both here and in Brooklyn, is to be believed, there will soon be the beginning of a time of blood and thunder in England should the Coercion Act be passed by Parliament. Prominent Irish-American leaders in all parts of this city and Brooklyn and Jersey City were talking about it yesterday; but, while willing to give their names in connection with what they thought of parliamentary warfare, they do not want to have anything to say about such an ugly topic as dynamite explosions except under cover."

## THE EMIN RELIEF EXPEDITION.

The West African Telegraph Company has received a telegram stating that Tippu Tib has met Mr. Stanley at Banana and accompanied him up the river; and that it is said Tippu Tib has been appointed Governor-General of Stanley Falls.

## A SONG BY PRINCESS BEATRICE.

A new song set to Heine's lines "Im wunderschönen Monat Mai," by Princess Beatrice, has just been issued by Messrs. Boosey and Co. Princess Beatrice, like her father, the Prince Consort, and her brothers, the late Duke of Albany and the Duke of Edinburgh, is an amateur musician of no mean powers.

## THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE.

It is understood that the Queen has commanded the attendance of all the members of the royal family upon the occasion of her Jubilee celebration. The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, who are at Malta, will come to England at the end of May, and the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, who are in India, will arrive in England in the first week in June. In celebration of the Queen's Jubilee, the Local Government Board are contemplating the issue of a general order to the guardians of the poor throughout the United Kingdom, sanctioning on the 21st of June a departure from the prescribed dietary for the inmates of work-houses, and the substitution, at the option and discretion of the local authorities, of a substantial meal similar to that which is customary on Christmas Day.

## LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL.

The London correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian* writes:—Lord Randolph Churchill has come back determined to make quite other efforts than those of Mr. Smith and Mr. Goschen to maintain "the union of the Unionist party," which he believes to be in considerable danger. The term "Unionist Home Ruler" has already passed into currency among the Dissident Liberals, and Lord Salisbury is pledged not to compete with Mr. Gladstone in any scheme of Home Rule. But from and after to-day there will be an active though concealed movement going on to "dish the Liberals" and to promote a large scheme of land purchase, together with such an expanded plan of local self-government for Ireland as may fulfil the vague promise the late Chancellor of the Exchequer held out to the Irish members during the discussion of the Estimates last year. As these manoeuvres are developed they will produce a tendency to Liberal reunion which will probably prove fatal to this form of Conservative policy.

## THE KENSINGTON DUST DESTRUCTOR.

Mr. C. J. Perceval, honorary secretary of the "Museum" Ward Conservative Association, Kensington, writes to us as follows respecting the Kensington Vestry Bill:—

One might easily imagine from the speeches made by Sir Algernon Borthwick and Mr. Labouchere on the above subject that the inhabitants of South Kensington generally were in favour of the destructor. Such, however, is not the case; for, when the member of Parliament for Kensington South Division attended a meeting of the Museum Ward Conservative Association, on the 1st day of April last year, and a gentleman proposed that Sir A. Borthwick should be asked to support this Bill, no seconder appeared, and the feeling at the meeting was strongly adverse to any such waste of money. The reasons against the destructor are many:—1. It is a wicked and wilful waste of money to burn indiscriminately all the valuable refuse from this the largest parish in London. 2. That it would cost (including all expenses) little, if any, less than £100,000, which, as (3) we are already in debt (including our metropolitan share of £1,000,000) to the amount of £1,900,000, is considerably in excess of our rateable value. 4. We have the example of the parish of Newington (St. Mary) of how to deal with our refuse. The net cost to that parish is but £1,500 per annum for scavenging, against ours of over £32,000. 5. The example of St. Mary, Newington, is being followed by Hampstead. 6. We have far greater facilities than St. Mary's, Newington; for we have the Thames, a canal, and several freight sidings of different railways in our parish. 7. Through the exertions of Mr. John Braye we have several farmers ready and willing to take all and more than we can supply them with. So that we have no excuse for this sinful extravagance; but until the ratepayers bestir themselves and take the trouble to send up men pledged to economy, and other than those whose sole delight is in spending other people's money, we shall never lighten our heavy rates.



## LORD HARTINGTON AND MR. CHAMBERLAIN ON THE IRISH QUESTION.

The first number of the *Liberal Unionist*, the new organ of the Liberal Unionist party, contains, among other matter, articles signed by Lord Hartington, Mr. Chamberlain, and Mr. Caine. Lord Hartington, writing from Devonshire House, under date March 28, expresses his pleasure at the intention to establish the new journal. He then goes on to say:—

It would be useless to deny that we are confronted at the present moment by the unsolved problem of the condition of Ireland in a more acute form than that in which it has been presented to us in past times. The difficulties of that problem have been intensified by the action of those who have suddenly discarded as inadequate and inappropriate every remedy hitherto suggested or adopted by the Liberal party, and who have, by a change of front unparalleled in its completeness and its rapidity, adopted a policy which, until a very recent period, had been advocated only by the avowed enemies of the integrity of the British Empire. That action had not only stimulated the courage and the hopes of the Separatist party, but has also discouraged and weakened the influence of those who, admitting the necessity of further reforms in Ireland, desired to base them on principles of Liberal progress rather than on theories of revolutionary innovation. The duty of Liberal Unionists, as I understand it, will be to endeavour to bring back the Liberal party to the faith of constitutional reform, to seek for practical remedies for acknowledged and proved grievances, and resolutely to expose the delusion that the abandonment of a difficult duty, or the sacrifice of any section or class of our fellow-countrymen, can be an act of courage or of heroism. The *Liberal Unionist* will make its appearance at a time of no small trial and difficulty, when every effort will be used to brand the party with the stigma which attaches to a policy of coercion. There is not a single Liberal Unionist who believes in coercion as a policy. But they all believe in the necessity for any civilized country to assert the supremacy of the law. We know that the object of the Separatist party is to prove that the government of Ireland as a part of the United Kingdom, with or without reform, is an impossibility. If it is their object to prove this contention, it is ours to dispute it. But if we assume this position, it is impossible for us to shrink from undertaking the task, difficult though it may be, of doing our utmost to support that canon which relies on the maintenance of the supremacy of the law and the efficient administration of justice.

Mr. Chamberlain, under the heading "Ireland Blocks the Way," writes:—

This is the answer which is now persistently made by Gladstonian Liberals to all demands for remedial legislation made by any part of the population in England, Scotland, or Wales. It is part of the system of intimidation—the "plan of campaign"—deliberately adopted by a section of English Liberals with the view of extorting from the British people a surrender to the Irish-American conspiracy. When fully developed the argument resolves itself into the following propositions:—1. Nothing can be done to give effect to the wishes of the people of Great Britain until the Irish question has been settled. 2. The Irish question can only be settled in accordance with the demands of the Parnellite members. 3. Mr. Gladstone's Bill has satisfied these demands, and would be accepted as a final settlement; and 4. Great Britain must, therefore, assent to Mr. Gladstone's Bill, or go without the legislation for which it is waiting. It is worth while to examine these propositions more closely. In reference to the first of them, is it really true that the Imperial Parliament and the people of Great Britain are absolutely at the mercy of a minority of about one-tenth of their number? Has it been so in the past? We may take it for granted that ever since the Union the great majority of the Irish people have been disaffected to the British connection. That is lamentable and a serious fact, but it has never prevented the British people from steadily pursuing their own programme of reform. Irish faction and Irish obstruction have delayed but have not stopped the march of progress. Why should they do so in the future? The only answer is that for the first time in our history Irish faction and Irish obstruction are applauded and adopted by a considerable section of the Liberal party. It is this new alliance with disloyalty that has paralyzed the party of reform, and the whole responsibility for the inaction with which we are threatened must lie with those who have deliberately consented to adopt the policy of Mr. Parnell, and to postpone the Liberal programme, authorized and unauthorized, to the programme of the Convention of Chicago. In connection with the second proposition, it must be observed that it is admittedly subject to some very important qualifications. If Mr. Parnell's demands can be shown to be dangerous to the integrity of the United Kingdom, fatal to the supremacy of the Imperial Parliament, or fraught with injustice to minorities in Ireland, Mr. Gladstone himself allows that they ought not to be conceded. The right of Ireland to govern itself—of which we have heard so much during this controversy—is therefore only a conditional right, and must not be exercised to the injury of Great Britain or to the detriment of any part of the population.

Mr. Chamberlain thinks it unnecessary to dwell at length on the third and fourth proposals in the Gladstonian argument.

No evidence has been forthcoming, or can be produced, to prove that Mr. Gladstone's Bills, or any similar measures, would be accepted as a final settlement by the American agitators who have furnished the sinews of war and who have devised and carried out the policy of outrage and assassination. On the contrary, everything tends to show that in them we have irreconcilable foes with whom hatred of England is a much stronger sentiment than love of Ireland. It is a humiliating feature of the present situation that British statesmen and British Liberals, under the influence of fear, impatience, or despair, should be willing to accept a policy dictated by the avowed and implacable enemies of their country. In this great national crisis the duty of the Liberal Unionist party is clear. We must continue strenuously to resist all proposals for dealing with the Irish question which are not accompanied by the most ample safeguards for the interests of Great Britain and of a large minority of loyal subjects of the Crown which were endangered by Mr. Gladstone's Bill. In the meantime, we must point out to the people of this country that it is not the Irish question which blocks the way, but only a particular method of dealing with it, persistently adhered to by a section of Liberals who are ready to sacrifice to their new-found faith in its efficacy the prosecution of all the other reforms on which the whole party might be immediately reunited. It is the indiscreet zeal of these recent converts which has laid on the shelf the entire Liberal programme of a few months ago, in order to clear the way for the propagation of a new dogma, formerly accounted to be a poisonous heresy, but now suddenly elevated to the position of a cardinal article of the Liberal creed.

## THE PARIS MURDERS.

The general belief now is (the Paris correspondent of the *Times* says) that Pranzini committed the murder in the Rue Montaigne, and that he left in the room the cuff and belt inscribed "Geissler" for the purpose of diverting suspicion from himself.

Geissler is not, indeed, an imaginary personage; for in situations held by him at Calais and Naples Pranzini was twice succeeded by Geissler. The latter is supposed, therefore, to have been a confederate, and to have escaped beyond reach of apprehension, as otherwise he would have come forward to clear himself. Pranzini asserted that he had spent the night on which the crime was committed at the house of his mistress, Mme. Sabatier. This was confirmed by the latter. On Saturday night, however, she wrote to the examining magistrate to retract her statement. She now says that Pranzini did not pass the night of the crime at her house. On Sunday afternoon she was taken to the office of M. Taylor, and there in the presence of Pranzini she repeated her second statement. The accused seemed utterly confounded. He said, "You are wrong. I came to the house about midnight. I saw you were sleeping, and not to disturb you threw myself on a sofa, where I spent the night." Mme. Sabatier, interrupting him, said she recollected very well what happened, and repeated her statement that the accused was not in her house on the night in question. Pranzini, turning with a flushed face to his mistress, said, "You, too, wish to ruin me. I do

not understand that. I swear I am innocent. That will soon be seen." It is now stated that Mme. Sabatier says she spent the day after the murder, Mid-Lent, with the accused. They dined at a restaurant, and afterwards went to the circus. On returning to her house he sat down on a sofa and began to cry. When asked why he did so, he said he had met a lady, Mme. de Montille, in the street, whose acquaintance he had made in society. She invited him to her house to take a cup of tea, and he was there, when, some one coming in, she begged him to hide in a closet. Twenty minutes after he left his place of concealment, and saw in an adjoining room the dead bodies of the lady and two other women. He rushed out of the house into the streets, where he wandered about all night. He said he must leave Paris at once, as his visiting-card would be found in the house, and he would be suspected of having committed the crime. He then begged Mme. Sabatier to give him money to enable him to leave Paris. She sold her jewels, gave the accused the proceeds, went with him to the Lyons railway station, and saw him leave for Marseilles. Pranzini will be taken to-day to the house in the Rue Montaigne and interrogated on the spot.

## AFFAIRS IN AFGHANISTAN.

A telegram received in Vienna yesterday from St. Petersburg contains the brief but weighty announcement that the Turkomans of Herat demand the secession of their province from Afghanistan.

## THE CONSPIRACY IN SPAIN.

The Opposition in the Spanish Congress endeavoured yesterday to elicit explanations from the Government in respect to the plot discovered on Saturday, and the arrests which followed in Madrid and the provinces. The Minister answered in vague terms that the Government were taking precautions, and he believed they would be able to defeat the persistent efforts and conspiracies of the revolutionary schools. Then the leaders of the dynastic Oppositions rose in succession, and offered an unconditional support to the Government and the monarchy against the revolutionists. Some of the persons who were arrested have been released on bail. It is stated that the Emperor William's birthday was fixed for the creation of disturbances affecting foreigners as well as Spanish subjects; but the precautions taken disconcerted the agitators.

## GERMANY AND ALSACE-LORRAINE.

Stringent measures are, it is reported, being taken in Alsace-Lorraine against French sympathizers. The *Strasbourg Post* announces that two French manufacturers carrying on business at Thann were, on the 25th inst., ordered to leave the territory within five days. Their names are not given, and the reason of their expulsion is not stated. The *Political Correspondence* publishes a letter from Berlin indicating the nature of the measures contemplated by the German Government in Alsace-Lorraine, with the view to a closer union of those provinces with the empire. The projected measures are mainly intended to delegate to the Reichstag certain affairs hitherto dealt with by the Provincial Legislature of Alsace-Lorraine; and, in fact, the reform in the legislation affecting Alsace-Lorraine is to be decided upon by the Reichstag. The reforms contemplated comprise the introduction into Alsace-Lorraine of the German land registration and mortgage systems, the German trade laws and the working men's protective laws, the post of burgomaster, hitherto an unpaid honorary office, to be in future a salaried one, and the Crown to have considerable influence in making the appointments. It is also proposed that German municipal regulations shall be established in Alsace and Lorraine; that some changes shall be made in the administrative staff, giving a more direct control of affairs to the Governor-General, and, finally, that police supervision over foreigners and associations shall be of a more rigorous character.

## IRISH TRIBE NAMES.

Sir Francis Hastings Doyle writes to us as follows from Rowbarns:—A writer in the *St. James's Gazette* of the 24th of March derives the name Doyle from Dhu-gall (dark stranger, he tells me the word means), and thence infers that the Doyles are of Danish, not Irish, descent. The point is of no practical importance, but his reasoning, I think, is not conclusive. Admitting Dhu-gael to mean "dark stranger," and that our name comes from it, to whom were we strangers? The "Welsh" were also strangers, but to whom? Why, to the Saxon invaders. To whom before them were the Dhu-gaels, or dark tribes of Wales, strangers? Why, to the Cymric invaders. We know from Tacitus that the dark race—præ-Cymric—whether Celtic or not, had been driven to the hills by the Red Celts before Tacitus's time ("Silurum torti crines et colorati plerumque vultus"). I have heard of Dhu-gael as the first name of Doyle; but I have heard of these Dhu-gaels as fighting against the Danes in the tenth century, and at the Battle of Clontarf—not as Danes themselves. The name itself—whatever it means, and whether we Doyles have anything to do with it or not—seems akin to that of the MacDougalls of Lorne. I never heard of them as Norsemen originally, though possibly, like the Macleods and, perhaps, other Highland clans on the west coast or in the Hebrides, they may be.

## THE VOYAGE OF THE "DAUNTLESS."

The *Dauntless*, which arrived at Queenstown last evening, had a somewhat more eventful passage across the Atlantic than her competitor the *Coronet*. She experienced much the same severe weather as the *Coronet*, and had baffling winds and confused cross-seas. Had she not been unfortunate in meeting the hurricane of the 22nd and 23rd inst., during which she was hoisted for eleven hours, she would have made a better record. She, however, made a better twenty-four hours' run by thirty-seven miles than the *Coronet*, whose best record was 291 miles on the 26th, while the *Dauntless* logged 328 miles on the 25th. On the 16th a strong gale was experienced, which blew for many hours with great fury, and with a very high sea running. At midnight the captain tried the experiment of lowering an oil-bag over the bow. This proved effective and the sea became smoother. On the 17th, 18th, and 19th the temperature of air and water indicated the presence of ice, and the greatest precautions were taken; but it does not appear that the crew actually saw any icebergs. On the 20th some slight accident to the gear occurred, which was, however, made good in a short time. On the 23rd the hurricane was experienced, and at 3 P.M. the mainsail was furled and other sails close-reefed. The gale increased so much that the commander, for safety, had to leave her head to the gale, which continued until ten o'clock the following morning, and it was only then that the passage was resumed, and then under shortened sail. During the storm two men were washed from the wheel, but were saved by their lashings. The cockpit was on several occasions filled with water, and altogether it was a perilous time for the yacht. On the 24th the sea was terribly confused, and the boat rolled so badly that the water-tank burst. The seamen were consequently put on the very smallest supply of water, and later on during the passage were supplied plentifully with ale, claret, and ultimately champagne, in lieu of water.



## LORD TENNYSON'S JUBILEE ODE.

The following Jubilee Ode by Lord Tennyson appears in the April number of *Macmillan's Magazine*. It is entitled "Carmen Sæculare":—

I.  
Fifty times the rose has flower'd and faded,  
Fifty times the golden harvest fallen,  
Since our Queen assumed the globe, the  
sceptre.

II.  
She beloved for a kindliness  
Rare in Fable or History,  
Queen, and Empress of India,  
Crown'd so long with a diadem  
Never worn by a worthier,  
Now with prosperous auguries  
Comes at last to the bounteous  
Crowning year of her Jubilee.

III.  
Nothing of the lawless, of the Despot,  
Nothing of the vulgar, or vainglorious,  
All is gracious, gentle, great and Queenly.

IV.  
You then loyally, all of you,  
Deck your houses, illuminate  
All your towns for a festival,  
And in each let a multitude  
Loyal, each, to the heart of it,  
One full voice of allegiance,  
Hail the great Ceremonial  
Of this year of her Jubilee.

V.  
Queen, as true to womanhood as Queen-  
hood,  
Glorying in the glories of her people,  
Sorrowing with the sorrows of the lowest!

VI.  
You, that wanton in affluence,  
Spare not now to be bountiful,  
Call your poor to regale with you,  
Make their neighbourhood healthful,  
Give your gold to the Hospital,  
Let the weary be comforted,

Let the needy be banqueted,  
Let the maim'd in his heart rejoice  
At this year of her Jubilee.

VII.  
Henry's fifty years are all in shadow,  
Gray with distance Edward's fifty summers,  
Ev'n her Grandsire's fifty half forgotten.

VIII.  
You, the Patriot Architect,  
Shape a stately memorial,  
Make it regally gorgeous,  
Some Imperial Institute,  
Rich in symbol, in ornament,  
Which may speak to the centuries,  
All the centuries after us,  
Of this year of her Jubilee.

IX.  
Fifty years of ever-broadening Commerce!  
Fifty years of ever-brightening Science!  
Fifty years of ever-widening Empire!

X.  
You, the Mighty, the Fortunate,  
You, the Lord-territorial,  
You, the Lord-manufacturer,  
You, the hardy, laborious,  
Patient children of Albion,  
You, Canadian, Indian,  
Australasian, African,  
All your hearts be in harmony,  
All your voices in unison,  
Singing "Hail to the glorious  
Golden year of her Jubilee!"

XI.  
Are there thunders moaning in the distance?  
Are there spectres moving in the darkness?  
Trust the Lord of Light to guide her people,  
Till the thunders pass, the spectres vanish,  
And the Light is Victor, and the darkness  
Dawns into the Jubilee of the Ages.

## SIR CHARLES DILKE ON AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

The fourth of the series of articles attributed to the pen of Sir Charles Dilke upon the present position of European politics appears in the April number of the *Fortnightly Review*. The author, after referring to the completion of the fortifications of Cracow and the "terror inspired by the recent concentration of Russian cavalry upon the frontier of Galicia," replies to the charge of exaggeration made against his estimate of the power of Russia. The writer then institutes a comparison of the forces and military preparedness of Russia and Austria-Hungary, and contends that, far from having underrated the military strength of the latter country, he has not set it low enough. He doubts the power of Austria to check a Russian advance upon Vienna from the Galician frontier.

The outlook for Austria is, in my opinion, far from promising. She will do all she can to avoid war with Russia, but if she avoids it she will probably be greatly humbled in the process. If she fights I fear she will be humbled also, and humbled with the loss at least of Bukowina and the eastern portion of Galicia. Germany cannot save her, for Germany cannot interfere because of France. Italy, which could save Vienna, would have to be given South Tyrol as far as the language boundary—that is, up to within six or seven miles of Bozen; and nothing could exceed the pain to the Emperor and his Court and many patriotic Austrians of being saved by Italy.

Sir Charles next refers to the difficulties of governing the Dual Monarchy with its composite nationalities:—

Cis-Leithania has, as is well known, a Reichsrath and seventeen provincial Diets. The two Austrias, Styria, Carinthia, and Salzburg present no difficulties, but causes of trouble are abundant in the other districts. The Emperor will probably end by getting himself crowned King of Bohemia, although it will be difficult for him to lend himself to a proscription of the German language by the Tsechs, as he has been forced by the Maygars to lend himself to the proscription in parts of Hungary of Rouman and of various Slavonic languages. But how far is this process to continue? The German Austrians are as unpopular in Istria and Dalmatia as in Bohemia, and Dalmatia is also an ancient kingdom. Is Ferencz Jozsef to be crowned King of Dalmatia? And is Dalmatia to have its separate Ministry, and its separate official language, and its completely separate laws? And what, then, of Fiume, the so-called Hungarian port? Then, again, Galicia is also an ancient kingdom, although it has at other times formed part of Poland; and the Emperor is King of Galicia, as he is King of Bohemia and Dalmatia. Is he to be crowned King of Galicia? And, if so, is the separate existence of Galicia to be a Polish or a Ruthenian existence, or, indeed, a Jewish? for the Jews are not only extraordinarily powerful and numerous there, but are gaining ground day by day. The Ruthenians complain as bitterly of being bullied by the Poles in Galicia as the Croats complain of the Magyars. Even here the difficulties are not ended. The Margraviate of Moravia contains a large Czech population, and will have to be added to the Bohemian kingdom. Bukowina may go with Galicia or Transylvania, Austrian Silesia may be divided between the Czechs of Bohemia and Moravia on the one part and the Poles or Ruthenians or Jews of Galicia on the other. But what is to become of that which, with the most obstinate disregard of pedants, I intend to continue to call the Tyrol? Trieste must go with Austria and Salzburg, and the Northern Tyrol and Styria and Carinthia, no doubt; but it is not difficult to show that Austria would actually be strengthened by giving up the Southern Tyrol, where the Italian people, or at least the Italian language, is gaining ground day by day. There really seems very little left of the integrity of the Austrian Empire at the conclusion of our survey of its constituent parts.

Matters do not look much better if we turn to Hungary. If we look to the numbers of the various races, there are in Austria of Germans and Jews about nine millions to about thirteen millions of Slavs and a few Italians and Roumans. There are in the lands of the Crown of Hungary two millions of Germans and Jews, of Roumans nearly three millions—although the Magyars only acknowledge two and a half millions—and of Magyars and Slavs between five and six millions apiece. "It is difficult to be a patriot in Austria," said a distinguished Austrian to me, the other day, "for one does not know to the representatives of what race, religion, tongue, or principle one's allegiance is due." After further discussing the position of Austria, the author passes to a consideration of the prospects and aspirations of the minor States of South-Eastern Europe, concluding with the opinion that the idea of a Balkan confederation is a dream and cannot be realized. As to Russian designs on Constantinople, the writer recommends a policy of watchfulness, keeping our hands free for the future. "Let us only avoid inviting Russia to Constantinople, as some of our writers and speakers do, to the possibly great detriment of British trade."

## TRADE AND FINANCE.

The average rate charged by the banks and discount-houses for loans to the Stock Exchange yesterday—the first day of the fortnightly Settlement—was about  $2\frac{3}{4}$  per cent., or about  $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. less than a fortnight ago. In the meantime the Bank of England rate of discount has been reduced  $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent.; while the rate of discount in the open market, which at the time of the last Settlement was  $2\frac{1}{2}$  to  $2\frac{3}{4}$  per cent., was yesterday only  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to  $1\frac{3}{4}$  per cent. In the open market, therefore, the value of money has fallen fully 1 per cent. Furthermore, it is not difficult to lend all the banks have to dispose of. It would seem, therefore, that the account must have increased somewhat during the fortnight for which the Settlement is now being made. Clearly it has done so in the Home Railway market. Speculative purchasers of North-Eastern consols, for example, had yesterday to give for permission to postpone payment till the next Settlement as much as  $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. for the fortnight, which is at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum. This is 1-16 for the fortnight, or at the rate of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. per annum more than last time. Speculative buyers of District stock had likewise to pay 1-16 more for the fortnight. Again the "rate of continuation" was the same as last time on North-Western, Midland, and North British, notwithstanding the fall in the value of money in the interval. The rate, however, was lighter by about 1-16 on Great Western and Brighton A and by  $\frac{1}{8}$  on Great Eastern. From these figures it will be seen that the speculation for the rise in Home Railway stocks has made further progress during the past fortnight. There was charged a decidedly higher rate on Grand Trunk of Canada stocks, amounting to as much as 5-16 for the fortnight, or at the rate of  $7\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. on the First and Second Preferences. On Mexican Ordinary stock the rate, which was the same as that just quoted, was likewise higher; but on the Preference stocks it was lower. It was, however, on the first as much as  $\frac{3}{8}$  for the fortnight, or at the rate of 9 per cent. per annum. In all these markets, then, the account open for the rise is larger than it was. But in the market for American Railroad securities there is little evidence of change. For dividend-paying stocks the rates ranged yesterday from  $3\frac{1}{2}$  to  $4\frac{1}{2}$  per cent., and for speculative stocks from 4 to 5 per cent.; whereas a fortnight ago the range for all was from 4 to 5 per cent. In Foreign Government Bonds the noticeable feature is that the speculation for the fall in Hungarian and Russian bonds is closed. Buyers of Hungarian Gold Rentes, indeed, who were not prepared to pay for their purchases were charged about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  per cent.; and practically there was no charge either to buyers or sellers of Russian Bonds of 1873.

The market for Foreign Government bonds opened weak yesterday morning. The political prospect was regarded as less satisfactory, and attention was taken settling the account. The Continental Bourses, however, which at the end of last week seemed more inclined to sell than to buy, opened firm, and quotations here instantly improved. Still there was little business. At the best of times neither English investors nor English speculators are much disposed to deal largely in Foreign Government Bonds, and yesterday the Settlement left little time for other business. In the other departments the tone was decidedly firm, and there was a general advance. People have convinced themselves that peace will be maintained, at least for this year. Trade is improving and must benefit all industrial enterprises, and money is likely to be cheap for months to come. On the strength of this argument, Home Railway stocks have been rising all through the present month, and the rise continued yesterday. Even American Railroad Securities, which have been lifeless since the war scare, moved up yesterday. It is thought that the danger of a stringent money market in New York is past, since money is so cheap and abundant in London that relief can easily be afforded. And, further, it is hoped that the Inter-State Commerce Act, which comes into force on Friday, will have a less disturbing effect than seemed probable awhile ago. All this is mere hope. It seems to us it would be well to wait for evidence as to the working of the Act. But the market is in a confident mood.

As just now there is much interest felt in the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company, in consequence of the negotiations going on for the sale of a controlling interest in the company by Mr. Garrett, it may be worth while to reproduce from the last report some information respecting the company. We may observe, in passing, that the company practically consists of the Garrett family and of certain corporations; so that the general public has hitherto had very little influence upon its management, and there is very little dealing in the shares. The total length of the line owned by the company is a little over 2,731½ miles. Of this, 1,386½ miles belong to the main stem, 165 to the Philadelphia, 443½ to the Pittsburg, and a little under 735½ to the Trans-Ohio. During the year ended with September last the total receipts of the main stem were 9,846,613 dols., and the working expenses were 5,820,247 dols. There was thus a net income of 4,026,365 dols. The working expenses amounted to a little over 59 per cent. of the gross income. Taking all the branches together, the gross income amounted to 18,422,437 dols., the expenses to 12,035,742 dols., and the net income to 6,386,694. It will be seen, therefore, that the main stem yielded somewhat over half the gross income, and more than two-thirds of the net income. The actual capital is very small, for the Garrett family has always pursued the policy of applying a large proportion of the income to the improvement of the line. In consequence, the share capital has been kept down, and the rate of dividend has been very high. For example, the Ordinary stock amounts to no more than 14,784,600 dols., the stock scrip not funded to 7,966 dols., and the Preference stock—dividends fixed at 6 per cent.—to 5,000,000 dols. The total stock of every kind is therefore only 19,792,566 dols., or less than four millions sterling; while there is a surplus fund representing invested capital derived from net earnings, and not represented by either stock or bonds, amounting to 48,047,461 dols., or to more than £9,600,000. The surplus fund thus considerably exceeds double the stock of every kind. From this it is obvious that purchasers of the line might issue a very large additional capital to represent this surplus fund.



## THE MORNING PAPERS.

## THE IRISH CRIMES BILL.

The *Times* congratulates the Government on having resisted the temptation to bring forward a weak or half-hearted scheme. They have deserved, and will receive, the support of the whole body of the Unionist party.

The *Standard* believes that the general opinion will be that the Bill is adequate to the necessities of the time; but that, on the whole, it does not go beyond them. There are provisions to which objection may reasonably be taken from one side or the other, but these do not affect its main drift.

The *Daily News* declares that the measure, as explained by Mr. Balfour, is simple, intelligible, and bad. It is one of the worst Bills ever brought into Parliament. But it has at least one advantage. It has destroyed once and for all the hollow pretence that pseudo-Unionists desire to treat England and Ireland on equal terms. No man has a right to call himself a Liberal, no man can hope to be accepted as a Liberal candidate in any British constituency, who gives a vote for Mr. Balfour's Bill. Liberals who uphold Ministers in their crazy effort to put down agitation and encourage secret societies will cover themselves with ridicule and disgrace. Ministers are reaching the end of their tether; they knocked several nails last night into their own coffin.

The *Morning Post* thinks the remedy drastic, but not more drastic than the circumstances require. That it will, though possibly with some modifications, receive the assent of the Legislature there is no doubt.

The *Daily Chronicle* is inclined to think that the general lines of the Bill are such as are calculated to effect the object which the Cabinet has in view. It practically embodies the national sentiment.

The *Morning Advertiser* doubts whether any Unionist will think the Bill too strong. The Opposition are bent on resisting the measure, but the majority is in the temper to make sacrifices for a great object, and the Government should be master of the situation.

The *Manchester Guardian* believes that the Bill will be welcomed by every mischief-monger who finds his account in the perpetuation of ill-will between Ireland and England; but by every true friend of both it will be genuinely deplored. All that is left to English Liberals is to make the best of an excessively bad business, and to show Irishmen that they have had and will have neither part nor lot in the great blunder and the great calamity which the Tories and their Unionist supporters will do their best to perpetrate.

The *Manchester Courier* observes that there is not a single liberty enjoyed by a member of a civilized community which is taken away or even menaced by this Bill. It has no terrors except for criminals. If its provisions were extended to England to-day, there is not a law-abiding citizen in the country who would feel his peace of mind troubled for an instant. It will be called a Coercion Bill; it would be far more appropriately styled a Protection Bill.

The *Manchester Examiner* considers the Bill odious; and should it become law, it will follow as a general result that nobody in Ireland will be able to say or do anything without incurring the risk of being brought before the nearest police court and sent to prison. The measure is fitted to drive every Irishman to desperation, and it justifies any amount of opposition, whether in or out of Parliament.

The *Leeds Mercury* admits that this measure, if it should ever pass into law in its present form, would strike a heavy blow at many species of outrage and intimidation. It is equally certain, however, that these gains would be secured at the cost of a great intensification of the bitterness of Nationalist feeling in Ireland, and perhaps an indefinite postponement of that reconciliation to the British connection which all who desire the lasting welfare of the United Kingdom must most earnestly desire.

The *Yorkshire Post* complains that the provisions of the Bill were not put into the shape of an Act of Parliament four months ago, and that Parliament was not specially convoked to pass it in November.

The *Liverpool Courier* does not think the Government proposals more severe than the situation necessitates. They might be made applicable to England to-morrow and no one would know of their existence. Honest and law-abiding citizens do not fear the coercion of the law.

The *Liverpool Post* believes the Bill will alarm and disgust the country. The only consolation is that it is the last Coercion Bill which will ever be introduced, and that it will quicken the coming of a brighter day, when Ireland shall be ruled on a wiser, more liberal, and more effective method.

The *Birmingham Post* takes exception to the provision for the removal of trials from Ireland to England. If Irishmen are brought over to England and convicted the bitterest feelings of injustice will be literally burned into the mind of every Irishman; every prisoner sentenced will be regarded as a martyr; and an impression of wrong will be produced which centuries of peace will fail to efface.

The *Sheffield Daily Telegraph* observes that the Bill will be, like all constitutional measures, a self-regulating law. It will cease to act when the occasion ceases. As to the success of the Bill there is no doubt. An arduous struggle will precede its passage; but when once it is in operation its administration by firm hands will bring peace, if not contentment, to distracted Ireland. It may be true, as Mr. Gladstone says, that this is the first time such a Bill has been brought before Parliament without the concurrence of the legitimate Opposition. That such is the case on the present occasion is to the eternal disgrace of Mr. Gladstone and his colleagues. Their names will go down to posterity branded with infamy as the names of statesmen who, in a time of acute crisis, joined themselves to the support of a criminal conspiracy planned to make government impossible, in the hope, as Mr. Parnell puts it, of severing "the last link that keeps Ireland bound to England."

The *Glasgow Herald* says that, startling as some of the provisions of the Bill seem to be—and especially that relating to the change of venue to England, which is of doubtful expediency—it has evidently been conceived, not only in a comprehensive spirit, but with a due regard for constitutional rights. The evils from which Ireland is suffering assume many forms, and they cannot be treated by one remedy, however drastic. What is wanted is a strong probability of the detection, and some approach to certainty in the punishment, of crime. Once this has been obtained, the experience of Lord Spencer's Crimes Act has shown that much more will follow.

The *Freeman's Journal* says: In the life-long history of coercion never was a Bill for the abrogation of public liberty based upon such a slender foundation, and never was it attempted to give parliamentary sanction to the proposals of forcible suppression of constitutional freedom so drastic and so ferocious. It proves one thing, and in this respect does unmistakeable service. It makes it clear beyond yea or nay that Ireland must be governed under one of these two systems—a system of self-government or a system of brute force. The parent of self-governing countries is now asked to do violence to its own Constitution, and not merely to deny to Ireland a system of Home Rule, but to plant a form of Government which will be met with resistance, passive or active, and with the curses of the people.

The *Dublin Express* remarks that if Mr. Balfour's speech contained a crushing indictment of the National League, it contained a no less crushing

charge against those whom Mr. Balfour described as the legitimate Opposition. Mr. Gladstone and his colleagues will find it very hard to answer it. The most important part of Mr. Balfour's speech was his declaration that the Bill contained no limitations as to the time it was to remain in force. The *Express* wishes he could have added that its general amending provisions, especially "precognition," were to be made part of a criminal law applicable to the whole kingdom. Meantime, it is a subject for congratulation that the vicious clause providing that the Act shall expire on such a day of such a year is conspicuous by its absence. "We have had enough of terminable annuities in legal protection."

The *Irish Times* observes that the closing words of Mr. Balfour's speech cannot be challenged in Ireland except by thoughtless people or by partisans. Those who appeal for protection, those who ask for liberty, those who desire to see law restored, are not persons of one class, creed, or sentiment. It is the whole of the working people who have pressed the Government to take the task in hand of breaking the yoke under which they groan, under which business is paralyzed, difficulties of agricultural prices are aggravated, and a social chaos is induced which has begun to tell its grievous tale not only in the record of crime but in a moral decay which might take a generation to recover from—a generation of poverty and sorrow.

## THE PROSPECT OF OBSTRUCTION.

The *Times* remarks that Mr. Dillon's three hours' analysis of the report of the Cowper Commission was not a bad beginning for a private member who had complained that the Chief Secretary spent two hours upon his introduction of the Bill. It is well to note thus early that the Parnellites contemplate a series of speeches of enormous length, and that their leader's amendment, involving, as it does, a flat contradiction of the vote of the House on Friday night, is still held in reserve. Public opinion will ask with amazement why, if these things are still possible, it was deemed of imperative necessity to give precedence this year to the discussion of the closure rule.

The *Daily Telegraph* says that the reality of parliamentary obstruction will no more turn the Government and the nation from their purpose than the empty threat of rebellion. If Mr. Dillon or any of his colleagues of the Separatist party can overthrow the evidence on which Mr. Balfour has so inexpressibly based his case, he may hope to defeat the Bill, but on no other condition. He must approach the task of refutation by a different line of argument from that which he adopted last night. Sneers at the official authorities whose testimony the Chief Secretary had cited, and accusations of partisanship levelled against the Irish judges, may serve well enough for the purposes of platform oratory in Ireland; but something more substantial in the way of argument will be required in the House of Commons.

## MR. BALFOUR'S SPEECH.

The *Standard* considers that Mr. Balfour's speech leaves little to be desired either as regards the formal justification of the plan or the full exposition of its provisions. It happened by no fault of his that he betrayed in some portions of his argument a want of grasp of the complexities of the Irish problem. It requires a temperament such as that of Mr. Dillon to reproach the Chief Secretary with being new to his office; but considering that he has to maintain almost single-handed, as far as the every-day conditions of Irish administration go, a conflict with four-score men who have the facts—and fictions—of current questions at their fingers' end, the comparatively limited nature of Mr. Balfour's information placed him under a serious disadvantage. The defect is one that experience will reduce from day to day, and Mr. Balfour has at least shown by his demeanour in debate that he has taken stock of the moral calibre of the men against whom he is pitted. Half the battle is to cultivate a serene indifference to the frequent, and sometimes unmannerly, interruptions on which Mr. Parnell's colleagues appear chiefly to rely as weapons of offence.

The *Daily News* says that if Mr. Balfour had intended to destroy his own case, he could not have spoken with more triumphant success. When he sat down there was only one feeling in the House, and that was that the "Chief Governor of Ireland," as Mr. Dillon called him, had achieved a most dismal failure. It would be unfair to lay the whole blame of the fiasco upon Mr. Balfour, who is a clever man and a skilful speaker. It was due to the inherent weakness of his position, which no eloquence could justify and no sophistry conceal.

## THE LIBERAL UNIONISTS.

The *Times* observes that hitherto the Liberal Unionists have been too careless of the effect of the tactics, of the sheer energy of brazen self-assertion, of Mr. Gladstone and his followers; and it trusts that their new review is an indication that they have discovered the inadequacy of the ordinary methods of honest controversy to deal with a propaganda dishonest in its origin and unscrupulous in its practical operations, especially amidst a population in which political education has by no means kept pace with the extension of the suffrage.

## PRUSSIA AND THE VATICAN.

The *Cologne Gazette* publishes a report of an interview which a member of its editorial staff has had with Monsignor Galimberti, special Envoy of the Pope. Monsignor Galimberti is represented to have declared that, with the adoption of the new Ecclesiastical Bill by the Prussian Diet, the Kulturkampf was being brought to an end, and peace was being concluded between the Prussian Government and the Curia. The Pontifical Envoy added that the leaders of the Centre party had been informed of the views of the Vatican in the matter. The *North German Gazette*, with the object of proving that the main cause of the original estrangement between Rome and Berlin was the hostile attitude of the newly formed Centre party in the Reichstag, publishes the correspondence which passed on the subject between Prince Bismarck and Count Tauffkirchen, German Chargé d'Affaires at the Vatican, in the summer of 1871; from which it appears that the Pope (Pius IX.) at first disapproved the tactics of the Clericals in the Imperial Parliament. The evident aim of the publication (the *Times*' correspondent remarks) is to show that the Centre party has no longer any *raison d'être* now that the Prussian Government and the Vatican are at one; but there is meanwhile no sign that the end of the Kulturkampf will see the dissolution of Dr. Windthorst's fraction. The correspondence is the subject of unfavourable comment in all the independent papers, the semi-official organs remaining silent. The Liberal journals point out that the natural inference is that Prince Bismarck has now stopped the struggle because he is convinced that the present Pope will do what his predecessor refused to do in 1871—namely, order the Centre to obey the State. Such a solution seems distasteful to all parties, even the *National Zeitung*, which is now a Government organ, remarking that "public opinion and Parliament supported the Falk Laws, not because the Vatican refused to grant Prince Bismarck's wishes concerning the attitude of the Centre, but because they wanted a permanent settlement of the relations between the State and the Curia, and, above all, because they regarded it as absolutely necessary to free the State from Papal encroachments."



## STOCKS AND SHARES.

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

## COLONIAL GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.

Canada, Dominion of, 5 p. ct. 1903	112	114
Do. ditto 4 p. ct. 1904-5-6-8	106	107
Cape of Good Hope 1890-1900	—	—
Do. ditto 1891	—	—
Do. 5 per cent. 1900	108	110
Do. 4½ per cent. 1900	103½	104½
Do. ditto (June & Dec.)	103	104
Natal 4½ per cent. (Mar. & Sept.)	101	103
Do. 5 per cent. 1900	104	105
New South Wales, 1888 to 1894	101	102
Do. 5 per cent. 1895 to 1902	105	107
Do. 2 per cent. 1892 to 1893	105	108
New Zealand 6 per cent. 1891	102	104
Do. 5 per cent. 1904	112	114
Do. 4½ per cent. Consols	103	105
Do. 6 p. ct., March 15, 1891	104	106
Do. ditto (June & Dec.)	104	106
Do. 4½ p. ct. 5-30, 1879-1900	101	102
Do. ditto 10-40, 1883-1913	101	102
Do. ditto 1889	102	103
Quebec Province of 5 p. c. 1901	110	112
Do. ditto 1906	110	112
Queensland 6 per cent. 1891-1896	106	108
Do. 4 per cent. 1903-1905	100	101
South Australian 6 p. c. 1891-1900	—	—
Do. ditto 1901-1902	115	116
Do. 5 per cent. 1911-1920	106	107
Do. 4 per cent. 1920	100	102
Do. ditto 1916	100½	101½
Straits Settlements Gov. 4½ p. c.	105	106
Tasmanian 6 per cent. 1895	110	112
Do. 4 per cent. 1 July, 1902	101	102
Victoria 6 per cent. 1891	107	109
Do. 5 per cent. 1894	105	107
Do. 4 per cent. 1899-1900	103½	104½
Western Australian 4½ per cent.	105	107
Do. ditto 4 per cent.	101½	102½

## REGISTERED AND INSCRIBED STOCKS.

Canada 4 p. c. Stock Reg., 1904	106	107
Do. Loan for £4,000,000, 1910	105	106
C. of Good Hope 4 p. c. Stock Reg.	99½	100½
Do. (Loan of 1883) Ins.	101	102
Ceylon 4 p. c. Inscribed Stock	101	102
Natal 4 p. c. Consol. Stock Reg.	98½	99½
New South Wales 4 p. c. Ins.	107½	108½
Do. 3½ per cent. Stock Ins.	93½	94½
Do. 3½ do. Stock, 1883	—	—
Queensland Stock Ins.	100	101
S. Australia (Loans of 1882-3-4)	100½	101½
Victoria 4 p. c. Railway Loan	104½	105½
1881, Inscribed Stock	104½	105½
Victoria 4 p. c. Loans of 1882, 1883, and 1884, do. 1903	104	105
W. Australia Loan of £525,000 Stk	104	105

## AMERICAN SECURITIES.

Massachusetts 5 per cent. 1888	101	103
Atlantic First Leased Lines Rental	—	—
Trust	75	77
Baltimore & Potomac 1st Mn Line	121	123
Central Pacific of California Six	—	—
per Cent. First Mortgage	118	122
Delaware and Hudson Canal	—	—
Mortgage Bonds, 1894	115	119
Denver & Rio Grande 1st Con. M.B.	80	82
Lehigh Valley Con. Mortgage	131	135
New York Central and Hudson	—	—
River Seven per Cent. Mort.	133	138
New York, Pennsylvania and	—	—
Ohio Third Mortgage	5	6
Norfolk and Western Preferred	50	51
St. Louis Bridge 1st Pref. Stock	105	107
Do. 2nd Preferred Stock	52	54
Do. 1st Mortgage Gold Bonds	133	137
Union Pacific Railway 1st Mort.	118	122
United Pacific Land Grant	93	102

## STERLING BONDS.

Allegheny Valley, 1910	134	136
Atlantic First Leased Lines Rental	—	—
Trust, 4 per cent. Mt. Debs	84	86
Baltimore and Ohio 6 per c., 1902	113	120
Do. 6 per cent. 1910	114	126
Do. 5 per cent. 1877	111	113
Memphis and Ohio	118	121
N.Y.C. & Hudson River 6 p. cent	121	123
Pennsylvania General Mortgage	127	130
Ditto Consolidated ditto	121	123
Pittsburg & Connellsville 6 p. c.	128	130
Union Pacific Rail. Omaha Bridge	123	124
United N. Jersey Ry. Canal 1894	109	111

## RAILWAYS.—BRITISH POSSESSIONS.

Atlantic and St. Lawrence 6 p. c.	139	141
Bombay, Baroda, & Central India	—	—
guaranteed 5 per cent.	161	163
Buffalo and Lake Huron	11½	12
Canada Central Five per Cent	—	—
First Mortgage Bonds	108	110
Can. Pac. Stl. 5 p. c. First Mort	105½	106½
Chicago and Grand Trunk 6 p. c.	111	113
Demerara 7 p. c. Perpetual Pref	140	145
Eastern Bengal 4 p. c. Guar. Deb. Stk.	106	108
East Indian, Annuity A	92½	93
Ditto Annuity B, £1 per annum	24½	25
Ditto Def. Annuity Cap. Guar.	—	—
4 per cent.	118	120
Do. Irredeem. Deb. Stk. 4½ p. c.	119	121
Great Indian Peninsula Guarant.	—	—
teed Five per Cent.	140	151
Do. 4 per Cent. Deb. Stock	107	109
Hamilton & N. W. 1st M. 6 p. c.	106	108
Madras guaranteed 5 per cent.	127	129
Ditto ditto 4½ per cent.	120	122
Ditto ditto 4½ per cent.	113	115
Melbourne and Hobson's Bay	—	—
United 5 per cent. Bonds	105	107
M. of Canada Sterling 1st Mort	—	—
gage	102	104
Do. (Con.) 5 per cent. 1st Mort	99½	100½
Nizam's State Railway Guarant.	—	—
eed 5 per cent. Shares	109	110
N. of Canada 6 p. c. Pref. Stock	55	60
Ditto 5 per cent. 1st Mortgage	104	106
Ditto 3rd Pref. Bonds A and B	94	96
Ditto North. Exten. 6 p. c.	104	105
Ditto ditto 6 p. c. Impr. Mort	124	125
Ditto 4 per cent. Deb. Stock	81	84
Ont. & Quebec 5 p. c. Perp. Deb. Stk	109½	110½
Oude & Rohilkund 5 per cent	125	127
Ditto 4 per cent. Deb. Stock	105	108
St. John and Maine	35	38
Scinde, Punjab, & Delhi, 5 p. c.	—	—
South Indian guar. 5 per cent.	126	128
Ditto 4½ per cent. Deb. Stock	114	116
S. Mahatma Guar. 4 p. c. till 1889	102	104
Ditto 4 per cent. Deb. Stock	106	108
Tasmanian Main Line Debenture	—	—
4 per cent. Stock	86	88
Toronto, Grey, and Bruce 4 per	—	—
cent. 1st Mortgage	85½	86½
Wellington, Grey, and Bruce 7	—	—
per cent. Bonds, 1st Mortgage	99	101

## BRITISH RAILWAYS.

East London Consolidated	12	14
Furness Consolidated	102	105
Glasgow and South-Western Con	99	101
Hull, Barnsley, and West Riding	—	—
Junction Shares	20½	21½
London, Tilbury, & Southend Co	137	140
Mersey	6	8
North London Consolidated	180	185
Rhymney	160	170

## RAILWAYS.—DEBENTURE STOCK.

Caledonian 4 per cent.	117	119
East London 6 per cent.	—	—
Ditto 5 per cent.	—	—
Ditto 6 per cent. 1874	90	110
Ditto 6 per cent. 1875	60	90
Glasgow and S. West. 4 per cent	115	117
Great Eastern 4 per cent.	117	119
Ditto A 5 per cent.	142	144
Ditto B 67 redm., 5 p. c.	133	135
Ditto 4½ per cent.	129	131
Ditto East Anglian 4 p. c.	115	117
Great Northern 4 per cent.	119	121
Great Western 4 per cent.	119	121
Ditto 4½ per cent.	121	125
Ditto 4½ per cent.	131	133
Ditto 5 per cent.	145	147
Lancashire and York, 4 per cent	117	119
London & Blackwall, 4½ per cent	120	122
London and Brighton, 4 per cent.	115	117
Ditto Perpetual 4½ per cent.	129	131
London & Chatham Arb. ½ p. c.	124	126
Ditto ditto B 4½ p. c.	123	125
Ditto ditto 4 per cent.	103	110
Ditto ditto 1883	108	110
London & North-Western 4 p. c.	120	122
London & South-Western 4 p. c.	118	120
Ditto ditto B 4 p. c.	118	120
Ditto ditto 3½ p. c.	102	104
London, Tilbury 4 per cent.	114	116
Manch. & Sheffield 4½ per cent.	123	130
Metropolitan 4 per cent.	115	117
Ditto 4½ per cent.	126	128
Ditto 3½ per cent.	93	100
Metropolitan District 6 per cent	158	160
Ditto 4 per cent.	106	108
Midland 4 per cent.	119	121
North British 4 per cent.	116	118
Do. E. P. and D. B. 5 per cent	—	—
North-Eastern 4 per cent.	118	120
Ditto 4½ per cent.	131	133
North London 4½ per cent.	131	133
North Staffordshire 4½ p. cent.	121	123
South-Eastern Perp. 4 per cent.	117	119
Ditto ditto 5 per cent.	142	144
Taff Vale 4 per cent.	110	113

## FOREIGN RAILWAYS.

Antwerp and Rotterdam	21	23
Bahia and San Francisco, 7 p. c.	23½	24½
Brazilian Imperial Central Bahia	21½	22½
Ditto 6 p. cent. Debenture Stock	112	114
Buenos Ayres Great Southern	165	167
Ditto Extension	14½	15½
Ditto 5 p. cent. Debenture Stock	120	122
Buenos Ayres and Ensenada Port	8	9
Ditto 8 p. cent. Preference	13½	14½
Ditto 5 p. cent. Deb. Stock	110	112
Buenos Ayres and Pacific Pref.	21½	22½
Buenos Ayres and Rosario Ord.	14½	15½
Ditto ditto 7 p. c. Deb. Stock	15	16½
Ditto ditto 5 p. c. Deb. Stock	113	115
Central Argentine Limited	109	111
Ditto 6 per cent. Debent. Stock	140	142
C. Uruguay of Montevideo, Lim	11	11½
Do. Permat. 6 p. c. Deb. Stock	123	125
Conde d'Eu, Lim., 7 p. cent	15½	16½
Copapo	38	42
Dutch Rhenish	37	41
Ditto New	3	5
Ditto ditto 1872	3	5
East Argentine, Lim., 7 p. cent	104	105
Ditto 6 per cent. Deb. Stock	113	115
Great Western of Brazil 7 p. c.	16½	17½
Ditto 6 per cent. Deb. Stock	113	115
Imp. Brazilian, Natal, and N. Cruz.	8	9
Lima, Limited	6	6½
Namur and Liège 14 p. per annum	11½	12½
Ditto 6 per cent. Preference	25	26
N.-W. Uruguay 6 p. c. 1st Pref	72	74
Ditto, ditto, 5 per cent. 2nd Pref	50	52
Ottomau (Smyrna to Aidin)	12½	13
Prov. Orei-Vitebsk 5 p. cent.	17½	18½
Recife and Sao Francisco g.	132	134
Riga and Dünaberg	14½	15½
Royal Sardinian	10	10½
Ditto Preference	11	11½
Royal Swedish	3½	4
Ditto Preference	3½	4
Sambre and Meuse	9½	10½
Ditto 5½ per cent. Preference	11½	12½
San Paulo Brazilian guar. 7 p. c.	41½	42½
Ditto 5½ p. c. Debenture Stock	131	133
Smyrna and Cassaba, Limited	24½	25½
Ditto 7 per cent. Preference	26	27
Southern Brazilian Rio Grande	—	—
Do Sul Guaranteed 7 per cent	22½	23½
Varna	3	3½
West Flanders	10½	11½
Ditto 5½ per cent. Preference	12	13
West. of Buenos Ayres 6 p. c. Bds	111	113
Do. do. 5 p. c. Mort. Deb.	98½	99½

## LAND COMPANIES.

Canada Company	83	85
Canada North-West Land	2½	3½
Natal Land and Colonization	7	8
Newfoundland Land	7	8
Otago and Southland Investment	1½	2½
Peel River Land	83	85
Scottish Australian Investment	195	205
South Australian	60	63
S. Austrin. Land Mort. & Agency	2½	3½
Van Diemen's Land	25	27

## TELEGRAPH SHARES.

Anglo-American Preferred	55	56
Ditto Deferred	44	45
Cuba, Limited	11½	12
Ditto 10 per cent. Preference	18	19
Eastern 4 per cent. Debent. Stock	102	104
Eastern Exten. 6 per cent. Debent.	104	107
Great Northern of Copenhagen	13½	14
Indo-European, Limited	34½	35½
London P. Brazilian, 6 p. c. Deb.	69	74
Reuter's, Limited	6½	7½
Submarine	180	190
Ditto Scrip	—	—
West India and Panama 1st Pref.	9½	9½
Western Union of U.S. 1 M. Bonds	123	127

## BANKS.

Agra, Limited	8	8½
Alliance Limited	12½	13
Anglo-Austrian	8	9
Anglo-Californian, Limited	10	11
Anglo-Foreign Banking, Limited	8½	9½
Anglo-Italian, 1866, Limited	5½	6½
Bank of Africa, Limited	5	6
Bank of Australasia	99	101
Bank of British Columbia	27½	28½
Ditto New Issue at 2 prem.	13½	14½
Bank of British North America	68	70
Bank of Constantinople	4½	5½
Bank of Egypt	—	—
Bank of New South Wales	65	67
Bank of New Zealand	23½	24½
Bank of Roumania	5½	6½
Bank of South Australia	26½	27½
Bank of Victoria	36	38
Central of London, Limited	10	11
Chart. of India, Aust., and China	23	24
Chart. Mer. of Ind., Lon., & China	16½	17½
Com. Bank of Australia, Lim.	8½	9½
Delhi and London, Limited	12	14
English Bank of Rio de Jan., Lim.	14	15
English Bank of River Plate, Lim.	12	13½
Eng., Scottish, and Aust. Chart	32½	33½
Franco-Egyptian, issued at 5 pm.	—	—
German Bank of London, Lim.	10½	11½
Hong Kong & Shanghai Bk. Corp.	51	53
Imperial, Limited	17	18
International Bank of Lond. Lim.	14	15
Ionian	15	16
Lloyds, Barnetts, & Bosanquet, L.	21	22
London and Brazilian, Limited	17	18
London and Hanseatic, Limited	10½	11½
London and Provincial, Limited	13½	14½
London and River Plate, Limited	16	17
London and San Francisco, Lim.	5½	6½
London and South-Western, Lim.	21	22
London Bank of Mexico & South	—	—
America, Limited	3½	4½
London Chartered of Australia	23½	24½
London, Paris, and Am. Bank, L.	17	19
Mercantile Bank of River Plate, L.	—	—
Merchant, Limited	2½	3½
National, Limited	—	—
National Bank of Australasia	9½	9½
Nat. Bank of New Zealand, L.	1½	1½
North-Eastern, Limited	5½	6½
Provincial of Ireland, Limited	19½	20½
Queensland National, Limited	12½	13
Standard of South Africa, Ld.	45	46
Union of Australia, Limited	67	69
Union of Spain and England, L	5	6

## GAS COMPANIES.

Commercial, New Stock	205	210
Continental Union Limited	39	41
European, Limited	21	22
Gas Light and Coke A., Ordinary	235	239
Imperial Continental	214	218
South Metropolitan A	303	308

## CORPORATION STOCKS.

UNITED KINGDOM.	
Met. B. of Works 3 p. c. Stock	99 99½
Com. of Sewers City London Scrip	100 101
Corp. of London Bonds, 1886-88	99½ 100½
Ditto ditto 1891-93	100 101
Ditto 3 p. c. Bonds, 1912	96 98
Birmingham Corp. Stock, 1914	102½ 103½
Bristol Corp. Deb. 3½ p. c. Stock	101½ 101½
Cardiff Corporation 3½ per cent	97½ 98½
Glasgow Corporation 3½ per cent.	— 100
Hull Corporation Stock	100½ 101½
Leeds Corp. 4 p. c. Con. Deb. Stock	112 113
Liverpool Corp. 3½ p. c. Stock	103 103½
Manchester Corp. 4 per cent	117 118
Middlestrough Corpora. 4½ p. c.	104 106
Newcastle Corp. 3½ per cent.	100 102
Nottingham Corp. Stock, 3 p. c.	87 87½
Stockton Corp. 4½ p. c. Mort. 1903	104 106
Wolverhampton Corp. 3½ p. c. Stk	98½ 99

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN.	
Boston (U.S.) 5 p. c. Stg. Loan, 1902	118 121



**THE WELSBACH INCANDESCENT LIGHT** can be seen at the Company's Offices, 4A, Upper Thames-street, London, E.C.; Mabey's Stock Exchange Restaurant, 10 to 14, Throgmorton-street, E.C.; the Hotel Continental, 1, Regent-street, S.W.; the Café Royal, 63, Regent-street, W.; the Marlborough Gallery (Messrs. Colnaghi's), 53, Pall-mall, S.W.

Applications will be received at the London and Westminster Bank, 47, 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.

**THE INCANDESCENT GAS LIGHT COMPANY, LIMITED.**  
(WELSBACH'S SYSTEM.)

Incorporated under the Companies Acts, 1862 to 1886.

Capital £500,000, in Shares of £5 each, Of which £166,665 will be taken by the Vendors Issue of £333,335 being the balance of the Company's Share Capital.

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Lieut.-General Sir Andrew Clarke, R.E., G.C.M.G., C.B., C.I.E., &c. (Director of the Colonial Mutual Life Assurance Society), Deputy Chairman.  
The Right Honourable Lord Beaumont, Carlton Towers, Yorkshire.  
Charles Poston, Esq., 39, Emperor's-gate, Kensington.  
The Hon. F. S. A. Hanbury-Tracy, M.P., 116, Queen's-gate.  
James Maclear, Esq., F.C.S., F.I.C. (late Managing Partner, Messrs. Charles Tennant and Co., Glasgow, &c.), 2, Victoria-mansions, Westminster, S.W.  
\* F. De La Fontaine Williams, Esq., (Messrs. Auer von Welsbach and Williams, Vienna).  
\* Will join the Board after completion of the purchase.

#### BANKERS.

The London and Westminster Bank Limited, Lothbury, London, E.C.

#### SOLICITORS.

Messrs. Francis and Johnson, 5, Austinfriars, London, E.C.

#### CONSULTING CHEMIST AND ENGINEER.

Dr. Carl Auer von Welsbach.

#### AUDITORS.

Messrs. Price, Waterhouse, and Co., 44, Gresham-street, E.C.

SECRETARY AND OFFICES.—R. A. Cary, Esq., 4A, Upper Thames-street, London, E.C.

#### ABRIDGED 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 follows:—

(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 with full prospectus.

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.

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 (Landskronasse) 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. SUPPANTSCHITZ.  
"Certified 14th December, 1886."

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 9.3 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.

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 £117,000 per annum would accrue.

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 other documents connected with the Company, can be inspected at the offices of the Solicitors.

Prospectuses and Forms of Application can be obtained from

The London and Westminster Bank, Limited, 47, Lothbury, London, E.C.

Messrs. Francis and Johnson, Solicitors, 5, Austinfriars, London, E.C.

Or from the Secretary, at the offices of the Company, 4A, Upper Thames-street, London, E.C.

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## THE INCANDESCENT GAS-LIGHT COMPANY, LIMITED.

Since the issue of the Prospectus, a further agreement has been entered into, dated 28th day of March, 1887, between the Company of the one part and Charles Cross Holmes of the other part, for the sale of the Patent and Patent Rights for Belgium, Spain, and Portugal for £100,000, which, with the other contracts named in the Prospectus, can be seen at the offices of the Solicitors.

By order of the Board,  
R. A. CARY, Secretary.

## THE SMALL FARM AND LABOURERS LAND COMPANY (LIMITED).

Right Hon. Lord THURLOW, Chairman.  
Right Hon. Lord WANTAGE, Vice-Chairman.  
Five per Cent. Dividend declared for the year 1885-6.  
FURTHER ISSUE OF AUTHORIZED SHARE CAPITAL.

Applications for Prospectus, Report, Statement of Accounts, and for Shares, to be addressed to the Secretary, Mr. SAMUEL INSULL, 70, Palace Chambers, 9, Bridge-street, Westminster.

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TUESDAY, March 29, 1887.