

This image shows a blank, aged, cream-colored page, likely an endpaper or flyleaf of a book. The paper has a slightly textured appearance with some minor creases and discoloration, particularly along the right edge where it appears to be bound or folded. The overall tone is a warm, off-white or light beige.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH.

(From the Registrar-General's Return, Sept. 6.)
The total number of deaths in London in the week that ended on Saturday (September 4), was 1,039. In the 10 years, 1848-57, the average number of deaths in the weeks responding with last week was 1,344; but as the deaths last week occurred in an increased population, the average, in default of comparison, must be raised proportionally to 1,478, in which case it will become 1,478. Hence it appears that last week was so favourable to the health of the inhabitants of London that 439 persons survived who would have died if the average rate of mortality had prevailed. The number of children born last week exceeded the number of persons of all ages who died by 492. Diarrhoea

of the fatal last week in 120 cases; in the week preceding the number was 146. *Sarcosina* carried off persons, being mainly responsible for the deaths of 20; *Ascaris* 12; *Cholera* cough, 42; measles, 20; *Alpox*; 5; and *Shooping* was fatal to 6 persons. Diseases of the respiratory organs were the cause of 50 deaths; of these 38 were attributed to pneumonia, and 12 to bronchitis. The deaths resulted to phthisis (or consumption), which is the most tolerated class of diseases, were 110; young, aged 9, and a man, aged 61, died of tetanus, the merr of these cases was the result of an accidental wound the knee. A labourer, aged 41, died in St. Giles's Workhouse from sunstroke, and the wife of a weaver "from exhaustion" died in the same place. The deaths of 10 magistrates died last week; the oldest was a widow, who attained the age of 38 years.

Last week the births of 806 boys and 725 girls, in all 31 children, were registered in London. In the corresponding weeks of the years 1858-1862 the average number of children registered was 1,693.

At the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, the mean height of the barometer in the week was 29.627 in. The highest aneroid reading occurred on Thursday at 9 a.m., and it was 29.75 in. The mean temperature of the week

65.6°C, which is 0.5 deg. above the average of the week in 43 years (as determined by Mr. Glasher). On Friday the excess of mean temperature above the average was 6.7 deg., the temperature having been below the average on four of the preceding days of the week. The highest temperature in the week was 74.0 deg. on Friday; the lowest was 43.3 deg. on Sunday. The mean daily range was 15.5 deg. On Saturday the range was 21.1 deg. and on Sunday it was 19.2 deg. The mean point temperature was 51.0 deg. and the difference between this and the mean air temperature was 8.4 deg. The mean temperature of the water of the Thames during the last four days of the week was 61.3 deg. The mean degree of humidity was 75, complete saturation being represented by 100. The mean relative humidity on Saturday and Sunday, the aggregate amount being 0.10 in. The general direction of the wind was south-west.

"Vine experiri? I pro; sequear." Sir,—There are many members of the profession who will not be at all surprised to hear that a second case of "chloroforming" has occurred on the steps of the former tragedy. This accident has occurred ere now within the four walls of more than one London hospital; but these two latter passages took place in the provinces—a circumstance which might induce some, and perhaps correctly, to imagine that the use of chloroform is now universal. Again, the history of these two last recorded cases shows how the accident occurred among us, as yet untaught by the experience of others, and how it attaches to the risk of an occurrence which skilled operators know to be irretrievably fatal. The

Dr. Snow some years ago proved by direct experiment that animals in whom the heart's action has been arrested by this fluid do not revive. They cannot be resuscitated. An overdose of chloroform by inhalation stops the heart's motion at once and for ever, as effectually as if it had been transixed by a bullet or sword wound. There is here no interval or period of oscillatory movement, such as occurs after apparent death in drowning, hanging, and beyond which the alternate contractions and dilations of the organ may be re-established and sustained up to the point of a final recovery. I believe it will be found on inquiry that there is no recorded instance of recovery from

state of complete asphyxia produced by chloroform, which should never constitute more than a very small percentage of the air we breathe when even to render operations painless.

It is probable that during the time the patient remains under its influence carbon accumulates rapidly in all parts and organs of the body, and if precautions are not taken against an excessive accumulation of that ingredient, rapid blood poisoning must ensue. Thus the heart is palsied at once and

ever, I shall not here enlarge upon several topics having a close relation to this matter, such as the varying quality of the blood in each individual, the integrity of the heart's mechanism, and the soundness of those great conducting media the brain and nerves; but may be allowed, in conclusion, to affirm that several examples have arisen of the ill-effects of this potent poison, as shown in certain remote sequences, whereof some have never entirely

stated. I am influenced by no unworthy motive in thus addressing you, neither do I desire to sound a false alarm, but it is the sense of the public were made fully aware of the risk and responsibility attaching to the use of chloroform at all times and in all places, and it may as well to remind the profession that if these unhappy accidents occur often somebody will some day find himself in an unpleasant dilemma on the same occasion. Chloroform ought never to be used except by the express desire of the patient on his

I am, Sir, your humble servant,
London, Sept. 7. A CONSULTING SURGEON.

THE COMET.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES.

Sir,—Some of your readers have requested information as to the locality in the heavens where the comet may be discovered, without being perplexed with astronomical signs

directions. The comet is now quite visible to the naked eye, and on a clear night, about half-past 7 or 8 p.m., may be seen almost in a straight line with the two pointers to the Polar Star, but below them instead of above them. 'At half-past 7 o'clock it is about midway between the lowest star of the Great Bear and the horizon. Its position will vary every night; but your insertion of this letter in your columns early this week will help many of your readers find it, and once found it is easily distinguished from the fixed stars. Through an ordinary telescope the tail is well

ned. Your obedient servant,
Bogor, Sept. 6. STAR GAZER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES.

Sir,—The comet was beautifully visible to the naked eye this place on Saturday and Sunday night. It is as bright as a star of the third magnitude. It will be found between 10 and 10 in the north-west, in the line of the two stars called the "pointers," and midway between them and the zircon.

Yours truly,

Bedlington, Sept. 6. ROBERT TAYLOR.

THE NEW ADELPHI THEATRE.—The works of the new Adelphi Theatre are in active progress, and, though comparatively little has been done, the roof, we are told, will be put on within the next six weeks. The new building will cover a somewhat larger area than was comprised within the old house, the present plan being made to include the ground added at various dates. The ground also will be excavated to a depth of 10 or 11 feet below the original level, to get space required beneath the pit and stage. The gallery entrance will be at the side, or from Bull-in-the-Field-lane.

ture, in which also will be one of the stage entrances. The side and box entrances will be, as at present, from the grand. A wide flight of stairs will lead to the grand tier, which will be appropriated to private boxes; and it appears there will be four other staircases of communication between the grand and the other tier of boxes, and that two of those staircases—those in the angles next the proscenium boxes—will tend also to the gallery and pit levels. There will be four tiers of proscenium boxes, ranging with the divisions alluded to of the body of the house. The proscenium boxes will occupy much space, and form a leading feature in the decorative effect. The whole of the stairs and floors to passages

be fireproof; and the apertures in the external wall next to the entrance will be contrived so that they may be made readily available for escape in case of fire. The pit will tend under the grand tier of boxes, as in the old house. The front seats of the gallery and of the pit will be arranged in stalls, those in the latter case having the staircase accommodation before mentioned with the boxes. A large lozenge over the grand staircase will be provided in connection with the upper boxes. The decorative effect of the interior will be tasteful and elegant. A manner reminding that of fifteenth Italian in the enrichments pervades the whole; light and highly ornamental shafts carry the box seats and the ceiling.

VALUE OF LAND IN KENT.—The Acrise estate, which stretches for several miles between Elham and Canterbury, including four manors and extending over seven

planes, has just been sold for 180,000, including timber,
Mr. Mackinnon, M.P.

description—officers who had served for years and had received honourable distinctions, men of a

knowledgeed good service and tried professional merit, civil servants with special qualifications, and others—so competent that the conditions of the crisis were speedily satisfied. We can further add—also on independent authority—that genuine patriotism or an honest desire to serve the country at a moment of pressure was evidently included among the moral or ordinary motives by which the applicants were actuated, and that the practical knowledge and dexterity thus brought into the service proved valuable in the extreme. So far, therefore, the people did their duty to the State; and now let us see what the State did for the people.

In February, 1857, the war being over, the officers of the Land Transport Corps, with certain exceptions, received an intimation that their services were no longer needed. Such a reduction was, of course, a natural step, but it was not followed by a step which was expected as naturally. The reduced officers, having been duly appointed by regular commissions formally gazetted, looked for the regular rate of half-pay. On the part of the authorities, however, it was argued that the warrant of 1854—the regulating instrument in the case—precluded any such grant, inasmuch as it required at least three years' military service from an officer before he could be entitled to claim half-pay upon reduction. The general propriety of such a rule we do not think of disputing, but we ask

the public to observe the manner in which, as interpreted by the War Department, it operated upon two most meritorious classes among the officers of the Land Transport Corps. First, those who had thrown up civil appointments to join the new corps were left helpless, for the service of the corps had not reached quite the three years, and, though the officers were only too anxious for a continuance

of employment they could not obtain it. In one instance a gentleman had resigned a situation of 500*l.* a-year in the Ordnance Department at the Cape of Good Hope with a prospective superannuation allowance of 100*l.* He had learnt the management of bullocks and waggons in the Caffre wars, and carried the results of his experience to Balaklava, but with small benefit, as it proved, to himself. The case of the second class appears harder still. In many instances non-commissioned officers of distinguished service, especially from the Artillery, had been gazetted to the Land Transport Corps, but it was actually held by the War Department that the service of these men previous to the receipt of their commissions, though extending over long periods and with marked distinction, could not be regarded as the military service required.

by the warrant, which must be dated from the commission only. One instance of this nature will suffice. A soldier had served 31 years in the Royal Artillery, for 7½ years of which time he held the rank of Sergeant-Major of Field Batteries. He entered the Land Transport Corps,

officer up to the time of its reduction, and is then informed by the War-office that, though reduced, he is not entitled to the regular rate of half-pay, because he has not served **HER MAJESTY** for the full term of 36 months !

We cannot take upon ourselves to assert that the warrant of 1854 may not, by its literal operation, debar these officers from the receipt of their half-pay ; but, if it does so, the extreme of right certainly becomes the extreme of wrong. Lord **PANMURE** appears to have been sensible of the hardship of the case, and to have proposed a compromise for the relief of the sufferers. With the sanction of the Treasury authorities, he has offered to those officers who had been appointed

of half-pay, and to those who had come from civil situations the full rate of half-pay, but only for short periods, ranging from two to three years. With these offers, however, the gentlemen concerned were, not unnaturally, dissatisfied, and they presented a petition to the House of Com-

persons embodying their case. The petition was referred to a Select Committee, and the report of this Committee, recently printed, sustains the prayer of the petitioners with more warmth and decision than such documents usually exhibit, recommending distinctly that both classes shall receive the regular rates of half-pay according to the ranks of the individuals.

The observations of the Committee on this question will be received with general gratification. Of course, it is not to be forgotten that the money

warded by our authorities is public money, and that even the rigour of economy is practised in the public interest, though it is unfortunate that official thrift should be so universally exemplified in petty instances and at the expense of humble claimants. But the peculiar usages of this country in military and naval matters undoubtedly require that liberality of practice should be the rule in our dealings. We do not maintain our establishments on a permanent war footing. We reduce them usually at

which political prudence will allow, and rely upon the spirit and patriotism of the people for the means of sudden expansion when need recurs. That this reliance may be securely entertained is proved by the experience of successive occasions, and was shown conspicuously in the Crimean war. If we reckon, however, upon thus extemporizing the resources which other nations keep more permanently organized, the least we can do is to treat with generosity

Patriotism is noble sentiment, but it is all the more active for recognition. Men who come forward freely with their services in times of pressure should find those services freely acknowledged when the pressure is past. It is not good policy to measure such acknowledgments by the accidental terms of a warrant. Strict law may declare the Land Transport officers from half-pay, but common sense, as well as common feeling, suggests that the law should be overruled.

THE CHANNEL ISLANDS TELEGRAPH.

A telegram from Jersey, dated 3 p.m. yesterday,

The streets were crowded with people, and flags flying in all directions, ashore and afloat.

A procession, accompanied by military bands, paraded the town. The town was to be illuminated in the evening, and fireworks displayed in the Royal-square and other places.

COURT CIRCULAR.

Fuad Pasha, Turkish Minister for Foreign Affairs, had a

A deputation from the Liverpool Shipowners' Association, consisting of Mr. S. R. Graves, chairman, Mr. James Smith, deputy chairman, and Mr. Thomas Carson, had an interview with the Right Hon. J. W. Henley, yesterday, at the Board of Trade, on the subject of the trade with British Columbia.

Captain Mangles, M.P., chairman, Captains Which and Young, R.N., and Mr. R. T. Tufnell, directors, accompanied by the secretary of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, had an interview with Mr. G. Hamilton, at the Trade

Mr. Powles, chairman of the Committee of Spanish American Bondholders, had an interview with Mr. Seymour Fitzgerald, at the Foreign-office, yesterday.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—ONE SHILLING DAY, Tuesday, Sept. 7.—Admissions on payment, 4,817; ditto by season tickets, 403; total visitors, 5,220.

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SECOND EDITION.

THE TIMES OFFICE, Wednesday Morning.

EXPRESS FROM PARIS.

The following is the letter of our Paris correspondent, dated yesterday (Tuesday), 6 p.m.:

The times are dull in respect of politics, and therefore we must not too severely blame some of the principal Paris journals if, instead of seeking to instruct the public by grave disquisitions on the affairs of Europe, they amuse it by quarrels and personalities. I do not mean quarrels submitted to the arbitrament of the sword—although a duel between two journalists, which ended with trifling scuffs to either party, formed part of yesterday's *Chronique Parisienne*—but to contests in which ink, not blood, is largely shed. A very pretty skirmish has been going on for the last few days between the *Débats*, *Presse*, and *Univers*, represented respectively by Messrs. Paradol, Guérault, and Vuilleul. The *Univers*, it must be owned, makes head manfully against its two opponents, and still finds time to deal an occasional blow at its old antagonist, the *Sicile*. It is to be regretted that M. Vuilleul is not more particular in his choice of arms; he would win far more honours were his stout defence and dashing onslaughts made with loyal weapons. He has surely wit and vigour enough to dispense with personality and abuse. The subject in dispute, although other matters have been more or less mixed up with it, is the miracle at Lourdes. M. Paradol, whose pen is not the less incisive because it is polished, and whose irony loses none of its effect by being couched in courteous and gentlemanly language, roused the wrath of the *Univers* by an article, from which I lately sent you some extracts. The article was a sensible one; too much so, apparently, for M. Vuilleul's taste, for, instead of fairly combating its arguments, he took his most acrid ink and made a furious personal attack on M. Paradol. After a man has been bespattered with M. Vuilleul knows how to bespatter, his best friend would be puzzled to find a clean place by which to lay hold of him. Like Sergeant Bothwell, as judged by M. Vuilleul, believes nothing and hopes nothing. It is to be hoped that he also fears nothing, or he might well be dismayed by the avalanche of abuse hurled upon his luckless head. There is not a circumstance connected with him that is not imported to him as an offence. He has the misfortune to be young—a misfortune that carries with it certain alleviations, and which M. Vuilleul, perhaps, would not be sorry to share. His youth is thrown in his teeth, and he is recommended to take counsel with the "consent fathers" of the *Débats* before again entrusting his goosequill with a flight. He has been at the University, and has filled a professor's chair, and this also is alleged against him as a reproach. Having gibbeted him in a column, M. Vuilleul addresses himself to his arguments, but only to pervert the passages to which he affects to reply, and to mistake the evident meaning of his opponent's words. M. Vuilleul's arguments, as M. Paradol justly observes in a brief and quiet reply to the intemperance of the *Univers*, are wanting alike in freshness and in politeness. The *Univers* is indignant with M. Paradol, and looks upon him as an Atheist, a heathen, a Voltairian, and what not, because his faith in miracles at the present day is anything but robust. M. Paradol repels the charge as follows:—

"Far be it from us to deny the possibility of miracles. There are some that are unmistakable. Imagine, for instance, half-a-dozen writers exclusively occupied in menacing, denouncing, and insulting their neighbours—in provoking among their fellow-citizens—and above all, in laying down as a fact that, in devoting themselves to this praiseworthy task, they are eminently Christian, and are admirably practising the precepts of the Gospel. So strange and obsolete a blindness, which nobody shares, but of which none the less, is it not something supernatural? Is it not almost a miracle? It is nevertheless a miracle that is every day performed, and to see it accomplished it is unnecessary to travel a hundred leagues; it suffices to cast one's eyes on the *Univers*."

It is certainly to be regretted that men of ability should so misapply their talents. Few persons can be taken in by them, and those must be of the most ignorant and feeble-minded; but they are in great odour of sanctity at Rome, and hence they have power and influence with a portion of the French clergy. It suits their purpose to play the ultramontane game. Anybody who habitually reads the *Univers* will there discern, under masks that might have been copied from the visages of ascetic inquisitors of the middle ages, a conclave of hard, audacious, unscrupulous men of the world, with hides tough as boot-leather, and which no lash can make to tingle, and who laugh in their sleeves at the dancing of the poor puppets of which they pull the strings. Occasionally, it must be admitted, although but seldom, their sting is rightly directed and justly inflicted. I may instance a pungent literary feuilleton in the *Univers* of yesterday. There has been published here, within a few weeks, a disgusting and filthy book, of which it would be scarcely possible to give the most slender analysis that should not be offensive to English readers, so utterly immoral, unchristian, and repugnant is it from beginning to end. It is a book whose sale in England would have been confined to Holywell-street. But *amateurisme* came into play. The author was a writer in the *Moniteur*, M. de Sainte-Beuve, the eminent critic, also writes in the *Moniteur*. The result was a criticism from his pen, in which it required great penetration to discern anything but commendation. Where blame there is, it is so artificially enveloped, so carefully sugared, that it must remain completely concealed from the great majority of readers. M. de Sainte-Beuve doubtless thought he could not do less for a fellow-labourer in the official journal. So much the worse, if his duty as a friend was utterly at variance with his duty to the public. M. Jules Janin was not ashamed to write a preface to the second edition, and the dirty volume is now, I believe, in a third. The *Univers* comes down, with well-merited severity, not only upon the book, which contains, it truly says, pen and ink sketches fit only for the boudoir of Madame du Barri, but also upon the critic who could so forget his high reputation as to speak otherwise than in terms of the strongest commendation of a work so utterly disgraceful.

The *Presse* of last night, in a long article headed "Encore le Miracle de Lourdes," gives the *Univers* quite as good as it brings, and, like the *Débats*, it has the advantage over the pious print, that its sarcasm is civil. The concluding paragraph is extremely pointed, and gives a happy sketch of the *Univers* as it is. M. Guérault says:—

"The *Univers* loves paradoxes; loves to go against the stream, to shock public opinion, to believe what nobody believes, to reject what all the world has faith in, to defend all that is detested, to criticize all that is admired, and to make its readers see the stars at noon day. If it is a wager, well and good; he keeps it up with spirit, he is amusing; but does he make any proselytes? Does he gain many souls to his doctrine? Does he make the Church believe? Does he render it popular, lovable to the little ones whose cause it formerly served? We have reason to doubt it. As to M. Vuilleul himself, we suspect him of setting a part (*de quelle façon*) and do not believe him to be so bad as he looks (*pas si diable qu'il paraît*). When we see this man of ability in the middle of the 19th century, regretting that Luther was not burned like John Huss, denouncing the Inquisition and the St. Bartholomew, declaring himself the adversary and enemy of modern civilization proceeding from the Revolution—of which, by the way, he does not succeed

in retarding the progress one second, nor on it to inflict the slightest wound—we do not on that account think him capable—Heaven forbid!—of himself practicing all the shocking things of which he has constituted himself the defender. We are disposed, rather, to see in him a sort of Catholic Froudon, a lover of scandal, who, by dint of audacity and frightening his own party, has succeeded (and that is the amusing side of the business) in ranging under his ferule some 40 bishops, who dare not open their mouths before him, and who, while detesting, still follow him, for fear of drawing upon themselves the reprimands of Rome. Futility, perhaps, perhaps not believe it, but the fact is, that M. Vuilleul is now a sort of Father of the Church, a torch of Catholicism, on whose political tendencies he sometimes projects lights of a formidable indelicacy. Is not this a miracle much more marvellous than that of Lourdes, an apparition far more significant than that of Bernadette? We know Catholics who are terrified at it."

"For our part, we have always great pleasure in reading M. Vuilleul; he amuses us, interests us, and does not terrify us at all."

M. Vuilleul, you perceive, is not only a man of wit himself, but also the cause of wit in others. A letter from Paris, in the *Nord*, contains some particulars respecting Madagascar, which at this present moment, when the French have just made it one of their naval stations, and when there has been much talk of both French and English projected expeditions thither, are not without interest, and I will translate a portion of them, with such abridgement as they admit of. The French writer in the *Nord* says:—

The station of the eastern coast of Africa will form the centre of our naval stations, the others being the western coast of Africa, India, and China, the Pacific Ocean, the western coast of America, the Antilles, Newfoundland, and Iceland. I will commence by speaking of the possessions we actually occupy on the east coast of Africa. Besides the island of Réunion (formerly the Isle of France), 150 leagues from Madagascar, we possess on the shores of this island the islands of St. Marie, Nossi-Bé, and the last being the head station of this little Government. The island of St. Marie, called by the people of Madagascar Nossi Ibrahim, is situated towards the eastern point of Madagascar, from which it is separated by a channel five kilometres wide; it is 48 kilometres in length, from 8 to 12 in width. An arm of the sea reaches its southern portion, dividing it into two parts. It is surrounded in great measure by reefs, but to the north there is pretty good anchorage ground, and Port Louis, the capital of the island, is an excellent port. In the middle of this port is a little island called Madaga, strongly defended, and on which are the barracks, stores, and dockyard. Not far off, on a mountain, are the ruins of a monument recording the first occupation; it is a pyramid, from the middle of which a great tree springs, and on whose sides are carved the arms of France and of the East India Company. The cession of the island was made on the 30th July, 1750, by Bell, daughter of the last Prince of Fontenoy, to Louis XV., re presented by the Comte de Paris. The only compensation for the cession was "a certain quantity of goods proper and suitable for her." It was abandoned at the time of the Revolution, but Count Mole again caused possession to be taken on the 15th October, 1818, by Baron Mackau, and the French agents were perfectly well received by the natives. Next year a garden of 60 men was placed there. In 1821 the French Government, desirous to develop agriculture in our colonies, sent men and money to St. Marie. The first attempts were unfortunate; they were badly directed, diseases afflicted the colonists, and the result was total failure. Just then, February, 1822, an English corvette arrived at Port Louis, and its commander, Mr. Rogers, declared by what rights the French were established there and what they proposed doing at Madagascar. M. Sylvan Roux, Commandant of the island, replied that he acted in virtue of orders from the King, and that Madagascar was French. An animated discussion ensued between the Governor of Bourbon and the Commander of the corvette, who declared Madagascar an independent island. It was subsequently that Radama wished to seize the sovereignty of the island, and to crush the numerous chiefs who had recognized our suzerainty. Radama, however, never contested our right of property in St. Marie. They continued to fortify the port, which in 1828 had 120 men and 123 black slaves in the service of the colony, and 100 more on the properties of some colonists; two men-of-war were stationed there. But the conduct of Radama brought things to that point that in 1829 it was necessary to think of forming an expedition, and to station 300 men of black troops at Port Louis.

"An expedition, under the command of M. de la Bourdonnaye, was undertaken in 1829, failed. One of the first acts of Louis Philippe's Government was to evacuate St. Marie, but occupation was soon resumed."

"In 1840 our Government felt the importance of increasing our naval power in those latitudes, and acquired in July the islands of Nossi-Bé and Nossi-Cumbia; in 1841, the island of Nossi-Bé, and the surrounding islands, and the island of Nossi-Cumbia; the Sultan of Mayotte ceded his island on the 25th of April, 1841. All these cessions were obtained from tribes friendly to France, and who felt themselves unable to hold their own against the Hovas. Thenceforward we had an important position in the Mozambique Channel; all these islands are situated between Madagascar and the continent. Mayotte, one of the Comore islands, is 90 or 70 leagues from the shore; the others are in situations analogous to that of St. Marie. Mayotte and Nossi-Bé were at once occupied, and since then have annually increased in importance. Mayotte, especially, is on the way to become an important colony; it is 21 miles long, and has an area of 1,200 acres, and is the head of a little river, which flows from north to south. The French establishment is at Point Choise, where the land is very fertile. The island is wooded, has excellent water, pasture, and some good anchorage places. Nossi-Bé has a smiling and fertile aspect, the centre, occupied by mountains, has 30,000 hectares of wood. The establishment is at the head of a little river, which has received the name of Hall-ville, from Admiral Hall, Governor of Bourbon, when possession was taken. Of the other islands belonging to us, Nossi-Cumbia, not a league from Nossi-Bé, is very populous, and has magnificent vegetation. Nossi-Falé, eight miles east from Nossi-Bé, is rich in rice grounds."

"According to the latest documents that have reached the Ministry of Marine and the Colonies, the population of Mayotte and its dependencies is as follows:—

Mayotte ... 6,829 inhabitants, of which 3,745 men.
Nossi-Bé ... 15,178 ... 7,790
St. Marie ... 5,500 ... 2,489

To these are to be added 500 or 600 floating population, 52 francigians and *employés*, 200 men of European troops, and 200 black troops. At St. Marie the growth of sugar is attaining a great development; in 1854, 330,121 killograms of sugar were exported thence to France.

"In this situation France has military establishments, means easy of development on the two coasts of Madagascar, and, moreover, Mayotte gives her an excellent point of view with respect to Mauritius and Zanzibar, points towards which French trade begins to direct itself.

The opening of the great road by the Red Sea (Suez) will augment the importance of this colony, which will thus find itself considerably nearer to the mother country and will be the advanced post of our colonial power in those latitudes. I will therefore trace the history of our rights to Madagascar, and it will be seen that M. Schryver Roux, *explorateur et commandant* at St. Marie, was completely right when he replied to Captain Moreau, of the British corvette *Mermaid*, that all the island belonged to France, and that he protested, by anticipation, against any infringement on her legitimate property."

The last news received here from Madagascar is to the effect that Ranavaloa, Queen of that island, was very seriously ill. Her decease would, it is said, have a great influence on the future affairs of that country.

Lord Stratford de Redcliffe has arrived in Paris. A very bad accident occurred last night on the St. Germain Railway. The *Courrier de Paris* of this evening gives the following account of it:—

"The train that left St. Germain at 10 o'clock, and which, as is known, descends by its own weight the slope of the atmospheric railway, was unable to stop at the usual place, and ran against a locomotive that was waiting at the station. A violent shock was the consequence. A carriage was broken; the conductor, a Frenchman, killed, and several other persons severely wounded. Several travellers were wounded, some grievously. It is supposed that the breaks of the carriage at the head of the train were broken."

A private letter from St. Germain gives a still worse account, which may, however, be exaggerated. It talks of three carriages smashed, four persons killed, 15 or 20 severely hurt, and a number of others slightly.

I have just been assured that Government has decided to apply the system of free trade to Algeria, and that all the ports on that coast are to be declared free.

The *Moniteur* publishes a report from the Minister of Justice to the Emperor on the administration of criminal justice in 1856, the results being, on the whole, highly satisfactory. Thus it shows that, notwithstanding the dearth of food which prevailed in that year, the Courts of Assizes of all the empire

only tried 4,535 cases of crime, in which 6,124 persons were implicated; whereas in 1855 the number of cases was 4,798, and of accused 6,840; and in 1854, 5,252 of the former, and 7,556 of the latter. It is true that in 1856 the crimes against the person were rather more numerous (89 more than in 1855), but the graver classes of crime, such as murder, malversation, and parricide presented no increase, while "in poisonings there was a decline. The 4,535 cases of 1856 were as follows:—207 of murder, 30 of poisoning, 13 of parricide, 190 infanticide, 76 cutting and wounding (causing death), 116 cutting and wounding (not causing death), 23 "rebellion" and violence to public functionaries, 831 criminal assaults on women and children, 45 perjury and subornation of false witnesses, 58 coinage, 499 forgery, 1,886 burglary and serious robberies, 206 arson, 117 fraudulent bankruptcy, and 145 other crimes. The number of what are called offences which fall within the jurisdiction of the Tribunals of the Correctional Police, were also fewer in 1856 than in 1855. Another satisfactory point noticed in the report is that the period for which offenders are detained in prison awaiting their trial has considerably diminished, owing to improvements effected in the forms of criminal proceedings; thus, two-fifths (42 out of 100) of the persons subjected to preventive imprisonment were detained less than a fortnight, and not one-fifth (195 out of 1,000) for more than a month. These results, the Minister declares, prove that as regards preventive imprisonment "France has now nothing to envy other nations." The report further mentions that, efforts having been made to diminish the expense of criminal justice, a saving of 200,000 fr. was made in 1855, and one of 400,000 fr. in 1856.

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and the Russian screw corvette Bazan lying at Spithead, with the Russian standard at the main, the squadron in

IRELAND.

RUBBER OVERSHOES (Goloshes) from a stock of 400,000 pairs; at can make to order to order at the rate of 8,000 pairs per day. Orders addressed as above will meet with prompt attention.

NO one gives better value for Ladies' and Gentlemen's LEFT-OFF CLOTHING, Uniforms, Liveries, &c., than **LEWIS MOSES**, of 464, New Oxford-street, W. Also required, for exportation, a quantity of boys' clothing. Letters addressed as above will meet with prompt attention. Established 70 years at 3, Russell-court.