

# The Economist,

## WEEKLY COMMERCIAL TIMES,

Bankers' Gazette, and Railway Monitor:

A POLITICAL, LITERARY, AND GENERAL NEWSPAPER.

Vol. IX.

SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 1851.

No. 399.

### CONTENTS

THE ECONOMIST.

The Protectionists' Plague Spot in the National Prosperity—The Property and Income Tax..... 417	IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT ..... 426
Retrenchment <i>versus</i> Reform ..... 418	Parliamentary Papers ..... 428
The New Protectionist Champion ..... 419	NEWS OF THE WEEK:—
The Timber and Coffee Duties ..... 421	Court and Aristocracy ..... 428
The Navigation Laws—Superiority of British Ships ..... 420	Metropolis ..... 428
New Source for the Supply of Guano ..... 421	Provinces ..... 428
Insurrection in Portugal ..... 421	Scotland ..... 428
The West Indies ..... 421	Ireland ..... 428
Chambers and Tribunals of Commerce ..... 422	Foreign and Colonial ..... 429
AGRICULTURE:—	Births, Marriages, and Deaths ..... 429
Competition and Progress in Husbandry ..... 423	Commercial and Miscellaneous News... 429
The Lambing Season ..... 424	Music and the Drama ..... 430
Spirit of the Trade Circulars ..... 424	LITERATURE:—
FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE:—	The Creed of Christendom ..... 430
Paris ..... 424	Christian Aspects of Faith and Duty ..... 430
CORRESPONDENCE:—	Organon de la Propriete Intellectuelle ..... 430
Sugar Refining ..... 425	The Soldiers of the Cross ..... 431
	London Exhibited in 1851 ..... 431
	The Life of Samuel Johnson, &c ..... 431
	Books Received ..... 431
	THE BANKERS' GAZETTE AND COMMERCIAL TIMES.
Bank Returns and Money Market ..... 431	Markets of Manufacturing Districts ... 436
The Bankers' Price Current ..... 432	LONDON MARKETS:—
Mails ..... 433	State of Corn Trade for the Week ... 436
Weekly Corn Returns ..... 434	Foreign & Colonial Produce Markets 437
Commercial Epitome ..... 434	Additional Notices..... 437
Indigo ..... 434	Liverpool Markets ..... 438
Monthly Statement of Sugar and Coffee 435	Gazette ..... 438
Cotton ..... 435	Prices Current ..... 439
Exports from the Port of Hull..... 436	Imports, Exports, &c. .... 440
	THE RAILWAY MONITOR.
Railway News..... 440	Railway Share List ..... 441
Railway Share Market..... 440	Railway Traffic Returns ..... 441

under that schedule, we will avail ourselves of the opportunity of referring to it as a whole.

1. *Schedule A.*—Schedule A, as our readers are aware, consists of incomes from real property of every description. The tax is levied upon the tenants according to the real rental paid, and deducted from the landlord in part payment of rent. There is, therefore, every reason for concluding that the returns most accurately represent the real amount of incomes from those sources. But returns being called for under this schedule only once in three years, that from which the last year's Income Tax was collected was made in 1848. A Parliamentary paper, No. 10 of the present session, shows the amount of property assessed under this head in Great Britain in 1842 and in 1848, from which the following is extracted:—

	PROPERTY ASSESSED TO THE INCOME TAX UNDER SCHEDULE A IN GREAT BRITAIN.	
	1842 to 1845.	1848 to 1850.
Lands.....	£ 45,753,616	£ 47,582,221
Messuages or houses.....	38,475,739	42,315,040
Tithes.....	1,960,331	505,466
Manors.....	152,217	163,867
Pines.....	320,043	289,994
Quarries.....	240,483	332,982
Mines.....	2,081,387	2,434,268
Iron-works.....	559,435	999,392
Fisheries.....	58,915	59,578
Canals.....	1,307,993	1,173,314
Railways.....	2,598,943	6,340,187
Other property.....	1,776,295	2,656,586
Total assessed.....	95,284,497	105,252,395

Thus, during the period from 1842 to 1848, the annual income of the country from real property alone, increased by no less a sum than 9,968,398*l.* The income from land alone appears to have increased by 2,228,605*l.*, but this requires some explanation, which will reduce the apparent increase. Under the Property Tax Act, tithes are required to be returned for assessment by the titheowners; but when they are commuted into a rent-charge, they are included in the annual value of the land. Between 1842 and 1848 tithes appear to have been commuted to the value of 1,454,865*l.*, and that sum, therefore, which was returned in 1842 as tithes, was including in the value of the land in 1848. To arrive, therefore, at a correct comparison, the two should be put together, thus:—

	1842.	1848.
Land.....	£ 40,167,088	£ 42,347,870
Tithes.....	1,960,331	505,476
Total.....	42,127,419	42,853,336

Thus showing an increase of annual value of land alone of 726,917*l.*, in addition to the enormous sums received by the proprietors during those years for land sold to railway companies and for building sites, and which is now included under the heads of railways and messuages.

But what are the heads in the above list which afford the greatest amount of labour, and which indicate the greatest commercial activity and prosperity? They are quarries, mines, iron-works, and railways. Under those four heads alone the income of the country increased in six years by no less a sum than 4,626,581*l.*, and we have reason to believe that the returns made for the present year will show a further increase under those heads of nearly 2,000,000*l.* a year. The great increase of railways has no doubt caused a slight decline in the income from canals, but it amounts only to the insignificant sum of 133,779*l.*

If we assume that on an average the investments of capital in real property, from which this additional annual income is derived, yield a clear interest of five per cent., then we arrive at the fact that in real property alone the wealth of the country increased from 1842 to 1848 by the amount of no less than 199,367,960*l.*, yielding an annual revenue of 9,968,398*l.*

*Schedule B.*—Schedule B includes the profits of occupiers of land, computed at the rate of one-half of the actual rental in England, and of one-third in Scotland; so that all farmers in England occupying farms under 300*l.* a year, and in Scotland under 450*l.* a year, except such as have incomes derived from other sources, are exempted, on the assumption that

## The Political Economist.

### THE PROTECTIONISTS' PLAGUE SPOT IN THE NATIONAL PROSPERITY.

#### THE PROPERTY AND INCOME TAX.

AMID all the remarkable evidences of great national prosperity—in the face of an annual surplus revenue of some two millions and a half in spite of a constant reduction of taxes—in the face of flourishing Customs and Excise, of diminishing pauperism, of extended employment, of increasing imports and exports as the result of the Free-Trade policy of the last ten years, the Protectionists have at last discovered one important "plague spot" in the material well-being of the country, which is slowly, but surely, undermining its capital and property. If this be so, then no doubt they are justified in assuming that all other evidences of prosperity are to be regarded as of a doubtful and temporary character. Reasoning from the returns recently laid before Parliament in connection with the Property and Income Tax, Lord Stanley has publicly called attention to the fact that the income of the country has diminished 8,000,000*l.* between 1842 and 1850, notwithstanding the vaunted prosperity of the latter year;—Mr Thomas Baring and others have repeated and argued upon this supposed fact in Parliament—the Protectionist organs of the press have put it forth as the most undeniable evidence of the failure of Free Trade—and the Paris journals, assuming the accuracy of those statements, have argued upon them as the most certain indication of the decay of England. What we were at first sight disposed to disregard as an evident blunder of unpractised hands in reading Parliamentary papers, appears to have acquired so much currency and importance as to merit some examination and explanation. We are aware that the great point of triumph with the Protectionists is the returns under Schedule D, which represents the profits of trades and professions. But as the Property Tax has thus been challenged as a test of the condition of the country, while we will carefully examine the alleged declin

their incomes are under 150*l* a year. Considering the higher rents in Scotland, the difference here indicated is certainly not greater than exists in the value of land in the the two countries. A farm which would let for 300*l* a year in England, would certainly let for 450*l* a year in Scotland; but we are greatly mistaken if in the average of years the profits of the Scotch farmer do not bear a larger proportion to his rent than those of the English farmer. When the Income Tax was imposed in 1842, it was a source of great complaint that the occupiers of land should be charged at a rate notoriously so much below their actual incomes; and at a rate in proportion to their rentals lower than they had been at any former period. Now, the complaint is, that the mode of assessment is a great grievance to the farmer—and that he is compelled to pay upon profits, though he makes none. Without denying that farming has been a bad trade during the last two years, or that in many instances there have been losses in place of profits, we think few will be found to contend, that taking the average of the years since 1842, during which the Income Tax has been imposed, the arrangement has not been highly advantageous to farmers, by which their profits are assessed at only one-half of their rents; nor can we believe it possible that any body of landholders will be found who will seriously contend that it is unfair to assume the profits of their farmers to be one-half of what they receive as rent. But there is this great difference between a trader and a farmer. The former keeps his business accounts separate altogether from his household expenditure; and although this may absorb the whole of his profits, he nevertheless pays upon those profits whatever they are. With the great majority of farmers the expenses of their household, including tradesmen's bills of every kind, all go into one and the same account, even when accounts are kept; and it is only the balance, after the paying all expenses of every description, that the farmer accounts profit. If he only makes both ends meet at the close of the year, he concludes that he has made no profit, although his household and personal expenses, often by no means small, are all discharged.

According to a Parliamentary paper, No. 65 of the present session, the amount of rental assessed to the Income Tax, under Schedule B, was as follows:—

	1842	1848
	£	£
England and Wales .....	41,558,550	42,529,913
Scotland .....	5,211,365	5,034,351
Total .....	46,769,915	47,564,264

Thus showing, that independent of the large quantities of land appropriated for railways and for buildings during that period, the rental in 1848 was 1,394,349*l* more than in 1842. What reduction will appear upon the return of the present year, remains to be seen.

*Schedules C and E.*—Schedule C consists of incomes from the public funds. In 1842, the first year of the Income Tax, the amount of income assessed was 27,909,793*l*; in 1850 this had fallen to 26,310,970*l*, the difference being chiefly attributable to the reduction of the interest of a portion of the national debt in 1844. Schedule E applies to salaries in all Government and other public offices. In 1842 the amount assessed was 9,418,454*l*, and in 1850 it was 11,683,178*l*.

*Schedule D.*—Here lies the "plague spot" discovered by the Protectionists. The following is an extract from a return laid before Parliament, No. 65 of the present session, showing the amount of income assessed in each year since the tax was imposed in 1842:—

Years ending April 5.	PROFITS OF TRADES AND PROFESSIONS ASSESSED UNDER SCHEDULE D TO THE INCOME TAX.	
	England and Wales.	Scotland.
	£	£
1843 .....	63,21,904	8,308,440
1844 .....	56,627,161	8,411,479
1845 .....	55,505,733	9,589,454
1846 .....	60,888,094	9,404,028
1847 .....	60,867,494	9,709,019
1848 .....	60,068,070	10,123,549
1849 .....	56,701,896	10,359,249
1850 .....	54,977,566	9,956,066

Thus showing a decline from 1843 to 1850 in the income of Great Britain under this schedule of no less than 6,397,712*l*. And this, at first sight, is the more surprising when it is considered that trade has not only been unusually extensive, but in many departments unusually profitable during the last two years. To the casual observer, the alternative put by Mr Baring in the House of Commons seems conclusive: either that the profits of trade have fallen off very much, or that great frauds have been practised in making the returns. A more attentive examination of the subject will, however, show that neither of these results, as applicable to 1850 or even to 1849, is necessarily true. It must be borne in mind that the Income Tax, under schedule D, does not apply to the profits of the year during which the tax is collected, nor even to that immediately preceding it; but to the average profits of the three preceding years, prior to the return being made on which the assessment is founded. The tax is assessed from Lady-day to Lady-day in each year. But, as it is customary for merchants to balance their books at Christmas, the returns on which the tax is assessed apply to the average profits of the three years ending the preceding Christmas. Bearing this arrangement in mind, let us now see to what years the different incomes really apply as contained in the above return. Take England and Wales alone:—

Year ending April 5.	AMOUNT ASSESSED TO THE INCOME TAX UNDER SCHEDULE D. ENGLAND AND WALES.
1843—63,21,904	Assessed on return made in 1842, of the average profits of 1839, 1840, and 1841.
1844—56,627,161	Assessed on return made in 1843 of the average profits of 1840, 1841, and 1842.
1845—55,505,733	Assessed on return made in 1844 of the average profits of 1841, 1842, and 1843.
1846—60,888,094	Assessed on return made in 1845 of the average profits of 1842, 1843, and 1844.
1847—60,867,494	Assessed on return made in 1846 of the average profits of 1843, 1844, and 1845.
1848—60,068,070	Assessed on return made in 1847 on the average profits of 1844, 1845, and 1846.
1849—56,701,896	Assessed on return made in 1848 on the average profits of 1845, 1846, and 1847.
1850—54,977,566	Assessed on return made in 1849 on the average profits of 1846, 1847, and 1848.

Thus the income which has been all along treated as applying to the great and profitable trade of 1850, really represents the collection of the year ending Lady-day 1850, based upon returns made in the summer of 1849, as applicable to the profits of 1846, 1847, and 1848; the years of railway depression, Irish famine, commercial crisis, and European revolutions. The returns under 1849 included 1847, but not 1848, and was consequently considerably better; that under 1848 included the three years ending with 1846, and was upwards of 5,000,000*l* more than 1850. In short, if the whole return is carefully examined with a view to the years to which the incomes assessed really apply, it will be found to correspond exactly with the real variations in the state of trade at the different periods, and to afford no good reason for a suspicion of any irregularity in the returns. At first sight great surprise may be excited at the very large amount assessed in the unfortunate year of 1847, but when it is found that that assessment applied to 1843, 1844, and 1845, all surprise ceases, as it does in relation to the return for 1850, when it is found that it applies to 1846, 1847, and 1848. In like manner the next return which we shall have will be for the receipts to Lady-day 1851, and will apply to the profits of 1847, 1848, and 1849, and is not therefore likely to show much, if any improvement; and it will not be until the return for the year ending Lady-day 1853, that we shall see the average profits of 1849, 1850, and 1851, and which for the first time will exclude the influence of the years 1847 and 1848.

With this explanation the most unreasonable Protectionist will scarcely have the courage again to quote Schedule D in this return, as an evidence of the decline of our trade; especially in the face of the facts, that in 1851 compared with 1848, the last of the years to which the income assessed for 1850 applies, our exports have risen from 52,849,000*l* to 70,000,000*l* of real value, and our imports from 93,547,000*l* to upwards of 120,000,000*l* of official value, and while, during the period referred to, the accumulation of capital in real property alone amounts to upwards of 200,000,000*l*.

#### RETRENCHMENT VERSUS REFORM.

IN the desultory debate on Chancery Reform which took place last week in the House of Lords, the Lord Chancellor made a few significant remarks which are strikingly illustrative of a sore and growing evil of our days, to which we have repeatedly called attention, and the danger arising from which cannot be too often dwelt upon; viz., the confounding of parsimony with economy, and the disposition to purchase cheap government at any cost, however dear. Lord Truro, like every one who has looked into the matter, is strongly impressed with the necessity for more Judges in the Court of Chancery, but he does not recommend their appointment for fear of the Retrenchers of the House of Commons. Justice, he thinks, cannot be done to the suitors in his Court and the numerous portion of the community which is directly or indirectly affected by its delays, without a considerable increase in "the judicial power;"—but this increase would require remuneration,—would involve expense,—and therefore those who have the management of the public purse would interpose their veto. In other words, justice and parsimony are in this case found to be incompatible; and parsimony carries the day. Lord Truro is reported to have said: "His noble friend, when alluding to what had passed in the House, seemed not aware of the extreme jealousy with which that House looks upon any increase in the expense of the judicial departments of the State. *There lies the evil. The temper of the present time is not disposed to make the necessary sacrifice for the administration of justice.* The business of the Court of Chancery has greatly increased. It is in fact extremely heavy. There is not sufficient judicial power there; and it is very doubtful whether the House of Commons would add to that judicial power."

We believe this to be a perfectly correct statement of the case; and a more stinging sarcasm was never uttered against the Lower House,—the more stinging because there is a considerable foundation in truth for the charge. And what does it amount to? The Court of Chancery has for more than half a century been the theme of the bitterest satire, invective, and complaint. Its delays and tedious and noxious forms have ruined hundreds of suitors and swallowed up millions of property. It has kept widows and orphans out of their inheritance, till there was no inheritance left to take possession of. It has reduced numbers to the most grind-

ing and life-long destitution, whose only crime was that they had the misfortune to have some property left to them which some other parties chose to dispute. It has driven many mad with irritation and despair. It has brought desolation upon many a happy household, and sin upon many a virtuous soul. It has condemned many to languish half a life in prison (on plea of contempt), whose sole offence was their utter inability to meet law expenses in a litigation with which they had literally nothing to do, and into which they were dragged by some mysterious sleight-of-hand which was utterly incomprehensible to them, and would seem utterly incredible when simply narrated to the world. It has imprisoned others, again, who have been liberated after *seventeen* years confinement, because, *the case having been then heard*, their imprisonment turned out to have been altogether a *mistake*. It has kept parties in a state of ignominious poverty for a large portion of their lives, whom a moderately prompt decision of their case would have put into possession of a princely fortune. Its enormous oppressions, its grotesque cruelties, have been such as to outrun probability, to distance fancy, to strain and stagger the boldest credulity, to drive fiction to envy and despair. A faithful history of the "Martyrs of Chancery" would present a picture of extreme and unmerited suffering, and of wanton and reckless oppression, to make the heart bleed with pity, and go wild with bitter indignation. We have not exaggerated the case: those acquainted with the subject know that it is incapable of exaggeration.

Now, no one denies these monstrous iniquities; no one palliates them; no one pretends that they are not deeply discreditable both to our national sense and feeling; no one can be unaware what a dark stain upon our character they form in the eyes of foreign nations. They are published and re-published in our ablest journals; they are proclaimed by the curses of a thousand sufferers; they have been denounced by reformers and philanthropists time out of mind; they are admitted and deplored by the ablest lawyers of all political parties;—yet they continue unchecked and increasing,—and Lord Truro tells us why. Because the House of Commons is parsimoniously inclined; because the temper of the times is fascinated by a shallow and niggardly economy; because the expense of administering justice forbids justice to be administered. That is to say, individuals are to be unjustly and indefinitely imprisoned; numbers are to be driven mad by suffering; hundreds are to be kept in poverty though heirs to an enormous fortune; properties to the amount of ten, twenty, thirty thousand a-year, are to be ingulphed and absorbed in the Court of Chancery; this great dishonour to England is to be perpetuated and preserved;—because the appointment of a sufficient number of judges to dispatch the work would cause an increase of the civil estimates of 10,000*l* or 15,000*l* a year;—and because one section of the House of Commons cry out, blindly and indiscriminately, against all increase of expenditure, and the other sections of that body permit themselves to be either unduly influenced or unduly intimidated by this clamour.

The guilt, then, of continuing this terrible and grotesque oppression lies, we are told, at the door of the Lower House of Parliament. What ought to be done *daves not* be done, because our senators take a narrow, partial, short-sighted view of their duties, and forget that they have other and higher functions than that of guardians of the public purse. They forget that they are intrusted with the money of the nation in order that they may purchase therewith those blessings which the nation needs, and on which its happiness and prosperity depends. They forget that their duty is so to dispense the public revenue as to further most effectually those objects which the public has at heart, and for which the community submits to be taxed; and that if the first of these is defence against foreign foes, the second at least is the administration of prompt, rigid, and impartial justice at home. For this they ought to feel, as the country feels, that no price can be too high; and if the additional number of Equity Judges required to clear off arrears of Chancery business, and to prevent any such accumulation in future, involved an increase in the civil list of 100,000*l* a-year, the amount should be voted without a scruple or a murmur.

In what proportion the guilt of this denial of justice and perpetuation of cruelty on the plea of economy, should be divided between those who raise the cry and those who listen to it, we are not careful to decide. The point most important to be brought out and fixed clearly in the popular mind is that the sticklers for "cheap government" in the House are the supporters of *mal-administration*;—that matters have reached a point at which Retrenchment and Reform no longer go hand in hand, but are pitted against one another;—that, in a word, the party who would save the money of the people, and the party who would spend it well, are distinct, and at issue.

#### THE NEW PROTECTIONIST CHAMPION.

The Protectionists have found a new auxiliary—some say a new leader. He comes, like their doctrines, from the realms of fiction, and is loudly welcomed. Having championed in the vigour of manhood a good cause, he and they seem to think that the success hitherto shared was due to the man, and that he has only to appear on their side, now when his arm has lost part of his vigour, to

turn defeat into victory. So Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton rushes into the field, bearing aloft Lord Stanley's banner, as he formerly bore Lord Melbourne's, and he cheers on the Protectionists, who greet him with answering cheers. It is, "Lytton to the rescue," and they crowd around him, rejoicing as if the field were already won.

Eager champions, however, sometimes overturn a friend and sometimes ruin a cause; and Sir Edward seems in his hasty zeal to have done both. "How," he exclaims with fine fervour, "have we dealt with this mighty interest? We have for more than half a century, by repeated acts of legislation, approved, confirmed, rooted as a very habit of thought into the minds of the cultivators of our soil, that the *idea of protection from the foreigner is necessary to their existence*. And having ourselves authorised that faith, we have suddenly removed all that we ourselves have told them that their very existence required."\* What an accurate picture of the origin of Protection. "We" and "ourselves" in the passage stand for landowners, who for the greater part of the half century had the complete control of the Legislature; who made and unmade ministers; and who, according to Sir Edward, have in all that time impressed a palpably false creed on the cultivators of the soil, till the idea has become rooted in their mind, that they cannot exist without being protected against the foreigner. What a sad and gloomy error! What a humiliating faith! Protection is not required by any social, or geographical, or economical fact; it is a mere theory, impressed on the poor cultivators of the soil by legislating landlords for their own purposes. By disturbing this extraordinary faith great injury is done to the cultivators and to society; and as the destruction of such a foolish error is inevitable, the landlords are represented by Sir Edward as the authors of all the injury suffered by society, or of which the farmers complain, from the existence of Protection at one time and its abrogation at another. The champion has, in his first onset, ridden over his friends and trampled them to dust.

Sir Edward institutes a laboured comparison between the intellectual services rendered to society by persons born in the ranks of merchants or manufacturers, and in the ranks of landowners. We question not its justice, and dwell not on its fallacies; though in going back for his examples to an early period of society—when the landowners were almost the only free men—when merchants and manufacturers were treated as inferior classes—when every man who could, by parsimony, obtain the means of purchasing land, hastened to enrol himself amongst the landlords—and when consequently they were peculiarly the leisure and the endowed classes, who, not being under the necessity of labouring for bread, possessed, though derived from the labour of other classes, the means of cultivating their intellect—Sir Edward proceeds unfairly. Whatever may henceforth be the case when the classes are becoming somewhat more equal in numbers and in wealth, the comparison historically is fallacious. But allowing Sir Edward's unfairness to pass, what must be thought of the independent intellect of that class which Sir Edward describes as permitting itself to have a faith imposed on it contradicted by all the evidence of sense, and models its whole conduct on an idea rooted in it by what Sir Edward calls "we" and "ourselves"?

The same "we" and "ourselves" for a much longer period endeavoured to root into the minds of the merchants and manufacturers and all the townspeople the same idea, as well as the idea that our representation was perfect; but the merchants and manufacturers never acquiesced in that doctrine; and, far from allowing the Legislature to enforce on them such false creeds, they formed on them, as on every other point, their own independent opinions, and aided in one case by Sir Edward Lytton, and aided in both by facts, they induced the Legislature to alter its views, reform the representation, and abolish Protection. The creed of the merchants and manufacturers, as well as the basis of the whole representative system—the rational foundation of all political systems is, that the government is the embodied essence of the opinions of the people. It is not their master, but their servant—not the lord over their hearts and their faith, but the handmaid of their will—not substituted for Nature as the master modeller of mind, but a contrivance to protect life and property; and to represent a large class as so mindless and spiritless as to have no ideas of their own duties and rights but such as are rooted into them by the Legislature, is really to represent them as the mental slaves to the rest of the community. Such is the imbecility and degradation which this new champion of the cultivators of the soil attributes to them. They are not independent men whose minds and faith are their own, but mere clay on which the Protectionist landlords impress their own images. We deny Sir Edward's conclusion. The cultivators of the soil have proved themselves capable of forming their own opinions, as in South Notts, and defending their own interests; but their worst enemies never represented them half so mentally degraded as they are unwittingly described to be by their new champion.

Sir Edward in his first letter announces himself in a new character—a conciliator—totally at variance with the Protectionists, who never attempted nor dreamt of conciliation. They opposed

\* Letters to John Bull, Esq., on Affairs connected with his Landed Property, and the Persons who Live thereon. By Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton, Bart. Chapman and Hall, Piccadilly.

it throughout. They never gave up an iota but on compulsion. They were invited and supplicated to take an 8s fixed duty and refused. They would have the sliding scale in its utmost rigour. He understands neither the men nor the matter he proposes to deal with. His new friends do not want conciliation. They want to get back old restrictions. They want again to revive the feudal relations of the landlords to the other classes, which have passed into oblivion like pigtailed and hair powder. They do not demand conciliation, and would only accept it as a means of further conquest. By their diatribes against manufactures and large towns, they evince an unappeasable animosity towards the growing communities that have dimmed the lustre of mere landlordism. They cannot forgive the encroachments of civilization, and Sir Edward affronts his new friends by proposing conciliation as the basis of his policy.

Twelve years ago when he, in common with his party, advocated a fixed duty that might have conciliated the opponents of corn laws, but it was not conceded; and now after more than that has been conquered, a fixed duty would not be a conciliation, but the renewal of a terminated contest. He is practically sensible of this, and labours hard to prove that the contest is not over; that Protection can be restored; that freedom for industry is a mere fiscal regulation; that it has not come in due course, after religious freedom and freedom of thought; that it is something not affecting the interest of the public, like the pages at court or titles of honour, which can be dealt with as "we" and "ourselves" please. In his retirement he has failed to notice the changes that have gone forward in society since a fixed duty would have been regarded by political parties as a conciliation. Free industry has now become a great social and national question. It is a part of the popular creed, and now to impose a fixed duty on the import of food, would not be to conciliate a party, but to endanger the empire. Sir Edward is again doing what he did in 1848, when he offered himself at Leominster, bringing before the world, like Rip Van Winkle, as we then said, "the disinterred ideas of a remote and forgotten period." His fixed duty is as little applicable to the present time as a measure of conciliation, as the megatherium of the antediluvian world would be a proper consort for the living species of animals.

Not one argument does he bring forward to show that the great measures of justice and policy adopted since 1842 to give freedom to industry have failed. He says, indeed, that "you everywhere behold divisions between classes, jealousies and feuds between national interests." Sir Edward having lived in the realms of fiction in 1842-3, may have forgotten the almost general rising of the factory hands at that period—the hurry and hastening of artillery from Woolwich to Manchester, and the existence of almost martial law in the manufacturing districts. So he may have forgotten the combinations in Glasgow, and the vitriol throwing; he may never have heard of the sad scenes in the North, when the people "clammed" with hunger, took a draught of water and laid down to still its pangs, or lived on the nettles they gathered in the fields; he may be ignorant of the terrible condition of the country from 1838 to 1842; but he cannot forget the agitation for Reform in which he took an active part, nor the Bull-ring riots of Birmingham, nor the burnings at Bristol, nor the insurrection of Frost and his misled companions; for all these things occurred while Sir Edward was yet living in the political world, or impressed themselves on all mankind. Nor can he well have forgotten the agricultural mobs that paraded the southern counties in 1830, and the conflagrations of farm produce and landlords' barns that then shed their lurid glare over the peaceful and friendly relations of the agricultural classes.

Within our recollection there has been no period of equal duration, notwithstanding the terrible famine in Ireland and the convulsions abroad, so peaceful, prosperous, and contented, as the period since 1843. In all that time there has not been, we believe, a single prosecution for a seditious libel. The practice is falling wholly into desuetude, and when the press is thus free from violence and persecution, we may be sure the community is not a prey to serious dissensions.

Sir Edward does not recollect, but he may easily learn from history, the consequences on the mind and parties of England of the first French revolution. Mutual exasperation, riots, encroachment, persecution, fines, banishment, death, a reign of tyranny here, if not of terror as in France ensued. He must recollect some of the consequences of the second revolution—the endangering of the public peace—the breaking up of the strong Tory government—the placing the Whigs in power—and the concession of reform as a means of appeasing public discontent; but he seems wholly ignorant of the striking fact, that under the new system of freedom for industry and plenty, the third French revolution had no other effect on England than slightly to injure its trade, and cause the farcical procession of the 10th of April.

Sir Edward mistakes the wants of society. It needs no conciliator; the bulk of the people are so well off and so friendly, that the agitating journals labour in vain to excite discontent, and repeat week after week calls for petitions to Parliament and memorials to the Queen, without the power to get up a real grievance. His proffered services to reconcile dissensions which have no existence are a useless parade. There may be apprehensions

amongst the landowners from what has happened in Nottingham and what is threatened in other counties—there is a feeling of uneasiness as well as a sense of suffering in a small number of them; but never were the mass of society more assured than now of the prosperity of the future, and more energetically engaged in all the noble works that bring plenty, wealth, and peace into every household.

If Sir Edward could have shown that the land is falling out of cultivation, instead of its being at this moment more assiduously and carefully drained and cultivated than ever; that the exports are falling off and the imports ceasing, instead of both increasing with great rapidity; that shipbuilding has stopped, and ships are rotting in our harbours, instead of the generous rivalry that prevails who shall build the most and the finest vessels, and carry goods the cheapest; that pauperism and poor rates are augmenting instead of having decreased, the returns of the present year, that will be complete in the course of a few days, showing a further diminution of seven per cent. as compared to last year; that crimes are increasing in number and turpitude; he might have made out some case for going back from freedom to restriction. But not one fact of this kind does Sir Edward allude to. He contents himself with quoting authorities and repeating arguments that were supposed to be valid when he was in Parliament. With a smart and dapper kind of puerility, he detects some trifling discrepancies between the different statements of the advocates of freedom—points out some prophecies that have not been realised—detects in a vast ocean of discussion a floating mistake or two, and on such unsubstantial trifles he proposes to found a complete change in the policy of the nation. On reasons that would not justify a tax on puppies, he would alter the course of the nation. His criticism on the errors of others does not establish for himself an enlightened creed, but implies that he is obliged to seek repose from the insufficiency of his own convictions in the detection of minute faults. His letters are out of time and out of place. They belong to a period anterior to 1842, and to the bad novels, not to the politics, of the season.

#### THE TIMBER AND COFFEE DUTIES.

As a principle in our commercial legislation Protection may now be considered as virtually and for ever abandoned. In 1841, the proposal of the Government of the day to reduce the duty on foreign timber from 50s to 40s a load was declared to be the most objectionable part of the Free-Trade budget of that year. On Monday night a resolution was adopted by the House of Commons to reduce the duty of 15s to 7s 6d, not only without any opposition but without even a remark. From first to last, while this proposal has been before Parliament, there has not been one speech made in opposition to it, and therefore none have been required in its defence. This looks well, not only for the progress which opinion has made at home, but also in the colonies.

The equalisation of the coffee duties was adopted with nearly as little opposition. It is true that Mr Stanley endeavoured to make out a case for Ceylon as against Brazil. He endeavoured to show that the immigrant labour of the Ceylon planter was dearer than the slave labour of Brazil—that the soil of Kandy was thin and poor compared with that on the extensive plains of South America. But he seems to have overlooked the fact, that it is on the thin soils of the hills in Brazil that the coffee tree thrives best; but whether or not, Mr Labouchere properly reminded the House of Commons that the people of England should not be called upon to equalise the productiveness of different soils by a tax upon their coffee for the benefit of any class of producers.

But if the interests of Ceylon had really been hazarded by this measure, we may rest assured that we should have heard of it from other members than Mr Stanley. Mr Thomas Baring would not in that case have confined his remarks to the use of chicory in the adulteration of coffee; when the proposal before the house was to equalise the foreign and the colonial duties. The truth is, and with the great attention which Mr Stanley appears to have paid to these subjects, we wonder he was not aware of that fact, Ceylon does already compete on equal terms with Brazil, Java, and all the rest of the world. For some years past our colonies have produced much more coffee than we consume in this country. Ceylon alone produces about 7,000,000 lbs a year above our consumption. What we do not require, must therefore find a market in Europe in open competition with the coffee of other countries. We will venture to say that there is not a planter in Ceylon who does not regard the reduction of the duty from 4d to 3d as of infinitely greater advantage to him, than any amount of protection which Parliament could have imposed.

#### THE NAVIGATION LAWS. SUPERIORITY OF BRITISH SHIPS.

The following is an extract from a letter which we have received from an extensive shipowner in Liverpool, which shows how little British ships have to apprehend in the great carrying trade of the world from the rivalry of the United States, or with any other country. Any one, moreover, who is acquainted with the increased efforts made by our shipowners during the last two years, in order to maintain our superiority—who has seen the

magnificent vessels fitted out by Messrs Lindsay and Co., and others for the India trade—will entertain no apprehension of our losing the advantages which we now enjoy.

Our correspondent, however, has fallen into an error, very commonly entertained, with regard to the circumstances under which the coasting trade of this country was not thrown open when the Navigation Laws were repealed. It is quite true that when that subject was first brought before Parliament in 1848, a belief was entertained, from what passed between Mr Bancroft and Mr Labouchere, that if we threw open our coasting trade the Americans would do the same. But from communications between the two Governments in the course of the winter of 1848, it became plain that such would not be the case. The law of the United States that accords, in matters of navigation, to foreign countries, similar reciprocal advantages that such countries accord to them, is limited in its operation to foreign trade, and expressly excludes the coasting trade. It was evident, therefore, that we should obtain no advantage in America by throwing open our coasting trade; which however the Government would still have done, had it not been pronounced by the Customs authorities open to grave difficulties in respect to the protection and collection of the revenue.

We agree that it is pushing the definition of coasting trade to an unwarrantable extent to apply it to a voyage from New York round the Horn to California. It is urged by the American Government that the Western Coast of the United States is connected without interruption by land with the Eastern Coast, and that although on a much larger scale, yet in principle, the voyage from New York to San Francisco round the Horn is as much a coasting trade, as is a voyage from Havre, round the coast of Spain and Portugal, to Marseilles.

We apprehend, however, that the communication from New York to San Francisco, by way of the Isthmus, cannot in any sense be a coasting trade. It is a double voyage, one from an American port to a foreign port, and another from a second foreign port to an American port. But this view of the case will not assist vessels desirous of going round Cape Horn.

To the Editor of the Economist.

SIR,—I have been a good deal interested by perusing from time to time the correspondence which appears in your journal, together with your editorial remarks, on the subject of the recent repeal in the Navigation Laws; and I am happy to say, though a shipowner, and one whose business capital is entirely in shipping, I entirely side with you in the views you have so ably put forth; and my object in at present addressing you is, to put you in possession of a fact which may perhaps assist to convince even Mr Aylwin that we are not entirely ruined. It is this—that the last overland from Calcutta advised a friend of mine who has a vessel there named the Sandford, which I despatched for him thither before the close of last year, that she was taken up in preference to American ships in the port for New York, at a freight of 4l 7s 6d for dead-weight, and 5l for light freight, while American ships were loading for London at 3l. Now, to what could this be attributable, but to the fact that A 1 British built ships are far superior to American vessels for carrying heavy cargoes—a fact that no British shipowner needs to be convinced of, so well is it understood; but nevertheless, the present I conceive to be one of the most triumphant vindications of our free-trade policy in shipping, as well as other things, that has yet been brought before us. The ship in question (and she is not one whit superior to the general class of ships we send to Calcutta,) not only gains a preference over American bottoms, but gains it to their own ports at a higher rate of freight; while she will make the treble voyage in not much more time, and under far better auspices than if she had returned direct to Liverpool or London. This is, indeed, the very voyage that we shipowners covet so much, and which (and in this I agree with Mr Aylwin,) the Americans have got the whip-hand of us by making the Californian round in so much better terms than ourselves.

Allow me to say, that I think you might give us more of your advocacy in this matter than we have received from you. There is no doubt that the Americans calling the Californian a coasting trade, is a grievance under which we British shipowners have suffered, and will suffer; and in my opinion it was the most short-sighted policy to keep to ourselves our coasting trade, the very nature of which prevented it being taken from us, and thus enable the Americans to shut us out of a trade really valuable. When they declared, that "if we did little they would do little, that if we did much they would do much," we should have met them by removing all restrictions that we might claim a similar boon from them. The time, however, for this has unfortunately gone by, and it is scarcely to be expected that the opportunity will again return.

Having considerable practical knowledge of this subject, I will just point out, in few words, what we have lost the last two years by this restriction. The rates of freight from this to California have been on the average 60s to 70s per ton, while the rates of freight from New York, Boston, and other ports in America have been 6l to 8l, and sometimes 9l per ton. This has injured us in two ways. We have not been allowed to send our vessels to New York, to which place we could get good outward freights from this, and then to load for California, because the Americans claim that as a coasting trade. While, secondly, the high freights current in America, have caused an inundation of vessels into the Pacific, which have come into competition with our own vessels in the India and China seas, thus reducing our freights there also. Had we been able to take cargo at New York for California, the probabilities are that we should have shared in the very high freights going, and at the same time have equalised them somewhat with reference to vessels loading from this, and thus have kept down the enormous influx of vessels to that quarter of the world to some extent, or, at least, have so rendered the profits on the voyage as to make the Americans not so eager as they have been to charter their vessels home from China and India at such exceedingly low rates of freight as we are aware have been current.

I have some right to take this line of argument, because I have been one of the very few, all along, who have assented to free trade in every thing, even in shipping, not selfishly making an exception for my own trade. I rejoice that this interest is placed in the same category with all the rest, and I only regret its incompleteness. Fairly carried out I have no fears from competition, it will do us good; but at present the Americans, our only real competitors, have, as I said before, the whip-hand of us in a most important trade. The India trade is as much our coasting trade as California is their's. Do let us have the benefit of your suggestions on this subject from time to time.

Liverpool, April 18, 1851.

#### NEW SOURCE FOR THE SUPPLY OF GUANO.

We understand that information has been received at the Colonial Office, that a discovery has been made of very extensive deposits of guano on the coast of Western Australia, to the north-east of Swan River. Hitherto this coast has been very imperfectly surveyed, but this discovery will, no doubt, lead to a careful examination of it, and of the bays and passages by which it can most easily be approached. Lord Grey takes too lively an interest in all that tends to promote the advancement of the material and industrial interests of our colonies to permit such a source of wealth, both to the colony and the mother country, to remain undeveloped. It is understood that several vessels have already carried cargoes of this guano to the Mauritius, and that the quality is fully equal to that which was derived from Ichnaboe.

#### INSURRECTION IN PORTUGAL.

INSURRECTIONS to procure reforms are the rule in countries where the press is not free. When men are at liberty to express their opinions they never conspire. In the seventy years that the United States have been established, there have been many fierce contentions, nullification compacts, numerous conventions, proposals of separation, but not one conspiracy. England too, with the exception of the abortive attempts of Colonel Despard, Butcher Ings, and Linendrapar Frost, has had neither insurrections nor rebellions since the century began. The terrible heats that arose here on the breaking out of the first French revolution, notwithstanding they were fanned by the fears of the Government, were soon cooled by the evaporation of ardent talk and violent writing. On the European Continent, since the American Republic was established, there has been a continual series of insurrections, revolutions, and rebellions. When not engaged in actual war, civil or foreign, the statesmen and the people, particularly the soldierly, plot and conspire. There was lately a plot in Spain in which Narvaez, who seized the Government by a conspiracy, was driven from power; and the last mail from Lisbon has brought us an account of a new insurrection in Portugal. Marshall Saldanha has raised the standard of revolt to the cry of "Down with Thomar." Thomar is the prime minister, formerly known as Costa Cabral, and against whom there have been other insurrections. There seems no other means of displacing a ministry in Portugal than to rise in rebellion.

In 1847 there was an insurrection for a similar, yet a somewhat better purpose, for the insurrection then was connected with some patriotic views of reform. Of that insurrection Das Antas was the hero and Marshal Saldanha so decidedly the opponent, that he objected to the amnesty recommended by England when she interposed against Das Antas. In fact he was then at the head of the successful party, and had succeeded by a military revolution in rescuing the very Count Thomar, whom he now takes up arms to displace, from impeachment. Throughout the troubled politics of his country for the last twenty years, the Marshal has taken an active part, and has been always ready to have recourse to his sword to defeat an opponent. Now he has united with Das Antas and the Liberals; he is one of the Royalist party which makes common cause with its former opponents.

It is altogether too soon to form an opinion as to the possible results of this insurrection. It may turn out a minister, it may pull down a throne, or it may itself be put down by the Government. The Duke of Terceira and the King have shown themselves active in endeavouring to secure Santarem against the Marshal, to which fortress he was supposed to have gone. The Marshal, however, is a man of considerable importance. He is favoured by a number of leading politicians, and a large part of the troops is supposed to be ready to join him. They have done so before, and he is popular with the army. They are discontented, the Minister unpopular, and the Marshal has all the chances of success in his favour. We look forward to the result with some interest, though whichever way it may turn out, the very attempt supplies another illustration of the immense advantages of the liberal and free policy for which our own country is distinguished.

#### THE WEST INDIES.

THE Clyde, one of the Steam Mail Company's packets, now overdue thirteen days, has at length reached Falmouth. Fears for her safety are now at an end, but they have been great. By her we have received papers from Demerara to March 15, and from Jamaica to March 17; and we are happy to say that the prospects of these colonies appear to be brightening. In Jamaica the cholera had ceased. The planters still demand a greater supply of labour, and the project for the importation of liberated negroes from the United States continues to find favour. If the revenue do not unfortunately equal the expenditure, the attention of the people is turned towards economy, and that will in time end in a reduction of taxation. At present, to meet the deficiency, it is proposed to levy the following additional taxes:—

- A tax of 2s on horses, mares, mules, asses, horned cattle, and wheels.
- An increase of the *ad valorem* duty of 4 per cent. on unenumerated articles in the tariff to 7½ per cent., with drawback upon exportation.
- A tax of 5s upon every tax payer throughout the island.

A produce tax of 5s per hog-head on sugar; 5s per puncheon on rum; 3s per tierce on coffee; 2s 6d per bag on pimento; and corresponding rates on arrow-root, ginger, and other products.

A tax of 4s on every horse, mule, and horned stock sold by penkeepers.

A tax of 2½ per cent. on the annual value of houses, other than those on estates and pens paying the produce tax.

A tax of 4 per cent. on all incomes of and over 100l per annum, except the net proceeds of produce of estates already taxed.

In Demerara the prosperity appears to be increasing. The *Royal Gazette* of March 6th says:—

It seems now to be well ascertained that the Combined Court will have the gratification of seeing the financial year 1851-52 commence on the 1st July next, with a considerable surplus to the credit of British Guiana in the colony chest. This is a satisfactory fact; though some persons are so unreasonable as to grumble at it. According to the best calculations, it appears that the excess of revenue over expenditure will fall little short of 250,000 dolrs. Within the last twelvemonth, prospects have brightened, and things in general have improved. Our planters are, certainly, not making the fortunes of ancient days; but they are, for the most part, obtaining a fair and moderate return for their capital invested in the soil. Even that cautious corporation, the British Guiana Bank, which seldom views matters *couleur de rose*, or indulges in pleasant day-dreams, was bound to admit in the last half-yearly Report of its Directors, dated the 30th January last, that during the preceding six months "there had been, and that there still continued to be, manifest indications of an improved state of things, especially in regard to the staple productions of the colony;" and that a progressive return to former states of the colonial productions may come within the range of hopeful anticipation, through the means of steady remunerative prices."

Under such favourable circumstances the session of the Combined Court had commenced, and there was every probability there of taxation being reduced as had been recommended by Mr Governor Barclay. We may notice, however, that the editor of the *Gazette* says:—"Though, in consequence of its smaller population, the trade of Surinam is less expanded than that of British Guiana, yet it seems that the attention of persons in Surinam is directed to a greater variety of industrial pursuits than here, where our exports may almost be summed up in the one word,—*sugar*. For instance, we find that besides 31,130,447 lbs of sugar, and 79,257 gallons of rum, exported, there were also exported from that colony last year 14,076 lbs of arrowroot, 127,678 lbs of maize or Indian corn, 165,021 lbs of cocoa, 906,740 lbs of cotton, 753,963 lbs of coffee, 13,028 cubic feet of timber, and 480,355 lbs of Kwassia bark—used chiefly, we suppose, in the manufacture of those bitters for which the Dutch are so famous—together with other articles.

"The Surinam papers," adds the *Gazette*, giving us an important piece of information, "contain two royal orders from his Majesty the King of the Netherlands, dated the 14th and 16th January last, placing the shipping of the free Hanseatic towns of Lubeck and Bremen on the same footing as Dutch in all the colonies and possessions beyond the sea belonging to Holland; with one exception, however,—the coasting trade in the Dutch East Indies, from which, probably from motives of a purely political nature, the shipping of Lubeck and Bremen shall continue to be excluded. These and other symptoms show that Holland is rapidly laying aside her old maritime and commercial jealousy and exclusiveness, and adapting herself with remarkable facility to the free-trade spirit of the age.

"The weather at Demerara has been showery, and not unfavourable, though in some parts of the country the fall of rain has been excessive. In the upper district of the Canje in Berbice, so heavy has been the rain that many of the settlers have been driven from their homes by the inundations of the river, which have proved most destructive to the provision grounds of the people. On the coasts, however, where the sugar estates are, for the most part, situated, we have not as yet heard any complaints of an excess of wet weather. Indeed, upon the whole, for some months past the season has been tolerably favourable for the growth of the sugar cane."

#### CHAMBERS AND TRIBUNALS OF COMMERCE.

We must contribute our mite to bring to a satisfactory conclusion the exertions that are making to procure a Chamber of Commerce and Commercial Tribunals for the commercial metropolis of the world. There are two questions at issue: the first is the formation of commercial law, the other is the mode of administering it. The merchants of the metropolis must be as well as aware as other men, that to make good laws is the most arduous of all human undertakings. It appeared *prima facie* to our ancestors the easiest thing in the world to repress crimes, and they proposed to accomplish it by making laws to punish criminals. Experience has, however, long ago taught us, that the greater number of their punishments failed to answer the purpose, and a large part of modern legislation has been directed, and with no great success, to abolish or amend the criminal code of our ancestors. To them also it appeared very easy to regulate the relations of property, the rights of masters and servants and of citizens to each other, and on all these points they legislated; but the laws relative to political and civil matters are notoriously as complicated, uncertain, and insufficient as the old criminal code was vindictive and mischievous. What is true of these great branches of legislation is equally true of commercial law. The mode in which commerce is carried on is continually changing. New trades are continually coming into existence. The principles of fair dealing and of

justice are permanent, but the practices of merchants in subordination to them differ from generation to generation. There is no more reason, therefore, to expect that a good, definite, commercial code can be easily made off-hand than a criminal or civil code. The commercial business of society is continually growing or dying away in all its parts, and can in no part be successfully prescribed, defined, or regulated by legislation.

That is the great fact, in consequence of which commercial men now complain, as well as every other class of men, of the uncertainty, complexity, and insufficiency of commercial law. They are in this respect no worse off than other classes. The criminal and the civil codes, the laws of the courts of equity and of *nisi prius*, are all objected to. The thing most essential, therefore, is to procure a revision of the commercial code, and next to provide for its due administration, with which must be connected a means of continually improving it or adapting it to the circumstances of commerce as they arise.

In the present condition of society, when division of labour is carried so far, that the man who cuts out a coat is not the same man who cuts out a pair of trousers—when there are societies for the improvement of the Courts of Chancery, of the criminal code, and of the civil law, the reform of the commercial code must be commenced by having some particular persons who shall devote their attention to that object. It seems ridiculous to suppose, when we admit the necessity of having one man to sew seams and another to make button holes, in order to have the work well done, that one set of judges, or one set of lawyers, can successfully administer all the laws for the various relations and business of life. In fact, the separation of courts of equity from courts of law, and of criminal from civil courts, is the adoption of the principle of division of labour in the administration of the law, which requires to be carried further, and applied to the making and administering of commercial law, in order to procure a reasonable commercial code well administered. We want, first, a responsible body of legislators for commerce; and next, a proper tribunal to administer their legislation.

An idea of this kind is at the bottom, apparently, of the propositions that have been handed about the city, under the auspices of Messrs Rothschild and Masterman, for the formation of a Chamber of Commerce; but the author of them takes an extraordinary view of the duties of such a body. He describes his proposal as less ambitious than the formation of a Tribunal of Commerce "to settle the disputes and correct the errors of private traders and the officers of the revenue," and yet he proposes that a Permanent Committee of his Chamber shall undertake what is now undertaken by "two Societies for the Protection of Trade from Fraud,—an East Indian Association,—a West Indian Association,—a Bankruptcy and Insolvency,—a Railway Goods Traffic,—a Shipowners',—a Light Dues,—a Mercantile Law Reform,—a Currency,—a Coalowners',—a Pilotage Committee, and many others."

He also proposes, that his Chamber shall combine into one focus the influence of the sixty-five members of the House of Commons who have their places of business in the city, and it is to take into consideration—"1, Mercantile Law and Usage, Partnership and Commandite; 2, Bankruptcy and Insolvency; 3, Currency and Banking; 4, Reform of the Boards, Laws, and Practice of Revenue; 5, Railway Goods Traffic; 6, Commercial Frauds; 7, Navigation and Shipping, embracing the Trinity House and Light Dues, the Cinque Ports and Pilotage, the Sound Dues, Stade Dues, the Church Dues at St Petersburg, &c., &c., &c.; 8, Intercolonial Trade and Shipping Laws and Regulations; 9, The Relations of British Commerce, and our Trading Subjects, with Foreign States; 10, International Mercantile Laws and Customs; 11, The proper Adjustment of the Commercial Tariff, and the Revision of the Excise Duties; and many others." "Connected too with such an institution, would naturally be a Library of Commerce, worthy of its founders, and an annual digest of all information and statistics connected immediately or contingently with trade." Besides all these offices, the Chamber of Commerce is to go partnership with the Lord Mayor and become an additional conservator of the Thames; it is to absorb the Dock Companies, and enable them to reform whatever abuses they labour under; it is to be the medium of communication between the merchants and the Government; and taking into consideration the standard of value altered by enlargements of the precious metals, it "might guide legislation with prudence and security through the intricacies" of the subject.

Whatever may be the merits or demerits of these suggestions, the author could scarcely be aware of what he was writing, when he described them as less ambitious than the simple proposal to establish a Tribunal of Commerce. His scheme vests in one body more complicated duties than are now performed by the judges and the bar, and runs completely counter to that extension of division of labour, which is as much required in legislation as in tailoring. Had the proposed Chamber been limited to the selection of a body of gentlemen, few in number, composed of lawyers and men of business, who should consider and recommend alterations in our commercial code, it would have been appropriate to present wants; but a Chamber of Commerce, a permanent body established in the city to protect trade against swindling, keep the river clean, look after the adjustment of the

tariff, &c., &c., in addition to the Corporation and the many other bodies already established, would, in less than a twelvemonth, be found a perfect nuisance. If such a body were united, it would be continually interfering with other men's business, and propping up, after the fashion of such bodies in all ages, schemes unduly to enrich the commercial classes at the expense of other members of the community. It would be like the merchant monopolists of old—a public enemy. If the members were to dispute and quarrel, which would not be unlikely, it would be merely a useless mockery, like too many of our institutions.

The chief reason for recommending such a body, is, that other towns have Chambers of Commerce, which have directed the attention of Governments to subjects connected with their interests, but without such a body, London, by means of its West India Association, East India Association, and others, always finds means to induce the Government to attend to those subjects which any large part of the community desires should be taken into consideration. As a means of procuring a reform of the commercial code, a definite object worthy of attention, a body bound to look after so many matters, would be quite worthless.

The other proposition before the mercantile classes for the formation of a Tribunal of Commerce is more reasonable, and might even be the means of introducing a reform of the commercial law. If those who had to administer the law as it exists were sufficiently enlightened and of sufficiently high standing to be entrusted with the office of suggesting improvements in it, and had no pecuniary interest in keeping up complicated modes of proceeding and in inventing fictitious pleas, and had imbibed no reverence by a peculiar education for the law as it is—they, the members of such a tribunal, would be the most fit persons to introduce reforms into our commercial law. A great deal, therefore, would depend on the manner in which such a tribunal was formed, and if it were judiciously formed, it would become the first step towards the much-needed reform of the law.

What should be the composition of such a tribunal, and who should appoint it, are questions of great interest. We are not disposed to agree precisely with those who recommend an imitation of the Commercial Tribunals of the Continent. What is required is an easy, quick, but reliable method of having justice done when disputes between merchants arise. If that task be undertaken by men not accustomed to weigh evidence and sift right from wrong, it will be accomplished in a slovenly and unsatisfactory manner, and will lead, in many cases, to unjust compromises. We are on this account inclined to conclude that merchants are not the proper persons to constitute such a tribunal.

County courts or police courts, in which the law is administered summarily, however complicated it may be, are the models we deem it advisable to follow. A special practical judge, a man of skill and knowledge, who should have nothing else to do but administer commercial law in commercial cases, but should administer it publicly—as the judges of the county courts and of the police offices administer it, and, like them, be responsible for his decisions—seems to us what should be aimed at. How such a judge should be appointed, whether elected by the commercial community or appointed by the Crown, is perhaps of little importance; for as far as we know the Recorders of the City of London and the Puisne Judges, though deriving their power from very different sources, have all been honourable men, and, as judges, equally worthy of the public confidence. It seems sufficient for the purpose of having a good officer and making his decisions respected, whoever he may be appointed by, that the tenure of his office should be the same as that of the other judges—that his court should be open and his decisions given in public. A regularly organised tribunal, exclusively to administer commercial law—not composed of merchants, for they would be subject to various influences, and their decisions would not always command respect—is the object which we suppose the most desirable.

If the judge should be deficient of a knowledge of the customs of merchants in certain cases, he might be empowered to call on some experienced men for advice and assistance; but in the majority of cases, after holding his office for a short time, he would know more of the customs of the city and of commercial practices generally than any one merchant. These things would be his particular study. By them he would have to regulate his decisions, and making a knowledge of them his business, he would become a perfect master of them. Parties might plead their own cause before him, or they might employ professional agents; these, and many other minute points we cannot enter into, but of the principle we have no doubt. The tribunal should be presided over by a man of the highest talent, his remuneration should be ample, he should be accustomed to weigh evidence, he should be able to investigate accounts, and he should have no other business. We are decidedly of opinion, that to select merchants or any other persons to form an occasional tribunal, instead of making the decision of commercial questions the well-paid business of a responsible judge, would be unsatisfactory. At the same time we are equally sure that to establish such a Commercial Tribunal in the metropolis, and to divest its proceedings of all the legal jargon and legal technicalities that in all our courts turn the administration of justice into a wrong, would be a great boon to commercial men.

## Agriculture.

### COMPETITION AND PROGRESS IN HUSBANDRY.

THERE are men living in some of our most busy and thriving manufacturing towns, who remember the time when the counting-houses, ware-rooms, and shops were closed at four o'clock in the afternoon, and the traders and artisans then passed the rest of the day in recreation. Their labours over thus early, their club, or the ale-house, pleasure fairs, wakes, or cricket matches, according to the season of the year, furnished amusement or social converse. Competition and changes in the mode of conducting business have long since compelled the traders and shopkeepers of the manufacturing districts to give up such abundant leisure, and to strive and push business with an energy and perseverance at one time not dreamt of as necessary or possible. And just so it will be with farmers. They have shut up at four o'clock; they—such of them at least as have had the means of farming well—have taken things easily, and are now, under the operation of competition, finding out that they must and can exert themselves with more effect than they have hitherto done. That the result will be as beneficial to them, as the same necessity for exertion has proved to the traders, no one can reasonably doubt, though at present the prospect of diminished ease and of the need of more energy is not accepted by the farmers without murmur. First, they relied on getting back Protection, but that hope soon faded; then they talked strongly about reductions of rent, but it was soon found that any landlord, who would let his land upon rational conditions, might easily obtain tenants at rents little if at all reduced; and finally the farmers have come to consider better relations with their landlords, and to demand securities for their capital, as the most appropriate aids in the new era upon which they are entering.

One of the first errors the great body of farmers must get over, is the notion they so commonly entertain that there is little if any room for improvement in their system and management. This is a general and most mischievous delusion which prevails amongst a class of farmers who farm somewhat better than the average management of their district. These are the men who sow wheat and other produce have fallen so much in price, and therefore we have lost the difference between the higher and the lower prices, and ask how can we go on? The answer is, that like other men in business, who have become subjected to new competition, and who find the price of their commodities fall, they must exert themselves to increase or cheapen production, and they will certainly do both with great eventual benefit themselves and the community.

Some points made in a recent discussion at the London Farmers' Club will illustrate our views, and disclose the present tendencies of the agricultural mind. The topic of discussion was a comparison of cultivation in Scotland and England as affected by soil, climate, and other circumstances—a vague thesis admitting of the most discursive talk. The discussion was opened by Mr Baker, of Writtle, in Essex, who seems to have hashed up the contents of a paper as to the effects of climate on cultivation, which appeared in the "Royal Agricultural Society's Journal," for the benefit of his audience. In so doing, however, he threw in many notions of his own. Now Mr Baker was a great light amongst the Protectionists, as we believe a moderately good farmer, and has some employment as a valuer, and he probably represents pretty accurately the class of farmers we have alluded to, as believing there is no room for improvement in their farming. After referring to differences of climate in Scotland and England he said:—

We know that there is in general in this part of the kingdom good cultivation; I contend that bad cultivation is now the exception. The cultivation of this part of the kingdom has within my recollection so much improved, that it is now very difficult to find a farm that is badly cultivated. Of course some farms are better cultivated than others; but whereas thirty years ago it would have been difficult to find a farm that was well cultivated, it would now be equally difficult to find one that was badly cultivated. I know there are some gentlemen—I believe their number is small—who differ with me on this point. Having farmed more or less in the county in which I reside for forty years, I have had many opportunities of making a direct survey of all the land, field by field, for twenty-five miles in one direction, and upwards of twenty in another. I have on many occasions been over the land for different purposes; and I state, without fear of contradiction, that within the period I have mentioned the general cultivation of the county of Essex has materially improved, and is still improving.

Now it is undeniable that farming in Essex has greatly improved during the last forty years, and that it is still improving, and so far Mr Baker's statement is true, and he might have added that during the whole time that improvement has been going on, prices of agricultural produce have been constantly settling down lower and lower. But when he says that it would be difficult now to find a farm badly cultivated, he hazards an assertion that would be contradicted by ocular demonstration in perhaps every parish in the county.

Mr Mechi strongly contradicted Mr Baker's statement, that good farming was the rule and bad the exception, and said that his "daily travels convinced him that the fact is the other way." But the most forcible counter-statement was that of the chairman of the evening, Mr F. Hobbs:—

I cannot agree with Mr Baker that bad cultivation is the exception throughout the kingdom; on the contrary, as an agricultural improver, I consider that good cultivation is the exception. I must say that, travelling through at various districts of the kingdom—Norfolk, Suffolk, and Essex, for instance—I have never seen a farm in which there was not palpable room for improvement. I could not sit here quietly, and allow Mr Baker to assert that bad cultivation is the exception. I admit that in the present day it would be unwise to invest more skill and capital in the soil, at all events to the extent to which Mr Mechi goes, unless an end is put to uncertain legislation, and confidence restored throughout the country; but I also think it would be very unwise for us to rest quietly in the conclusion that we are doing as agriculturists all we can do, and could not do more even were security and encouragement given us in reference to the cultivation of the soil.

Now, despite his belief—real or affected—in Protection, M Hobbs

is a very competent witness as to the want of improvement, and the field which lies open to it on every farm, even in our best farmed districts.

### THE LAMBING SEASON.

PERHAPS the worst consequence of the wet weather of last month has been the injury caused to the breeding flocks. Early in the season the lambing was generally favourable, and somewhat more than an average productiveness was observed. But since the wet weather set in, we have heard of many losses both of lambs and the ewes. There is nothing so mischievous to sheep as wet; after three days old, lambs can bear and thrive in any degree of cold experienced in this country, provided they are fairly fed and taken care of, but they always suffer much in a rainy season. In North Wiltshire, a local report states "that the lambing season has been very unfavourable." And in Lincolnshire it is stated to be "the worst on record." The *Lincoln Chronicle* states that "the number of ewes casting their lambs is immense in the four parishes of Rothwell, Holton-la-Moor, Owersby, and Blyborough; we shall be much within bounds if we say the loss exceeds 1,000. In many instances one-third and in others one-half are lost." We are disposed to believe that this is an exaggeration, or, at all events, that such serious loss is not general, the journal from which we have quoted being one of those Protectionist organs that will not permit the farmers to be comforted by the hope of realising a good profit from their flocks, now wool and mutton have risen so high in price. Some losses since the wet weather have, however, occurred within our own knowledge; and more sober reporters point to the ill effects of the rainy weather on the lambs. Thus in Mid-Lothian it is reported "lambing ewes are very uncomfortable of late, there is a full proportion of twins, but there has been some amount of deaths." In East Lothian it is remarked "the wet weather has been rather against the thriving of ewes and early lambs; the latter always suffer more from wet than cold. The crop of lambs is said to be good, there being a good many twins, and not a few triplets." In West Lothian, however, "ewes and lambs have been remarkably healthy." Again in Berkshire the lambing season has been a favourable one. A very remarkable instance of fecundity in sheep is stated by the *Farmers' Magazine* for April, to have occurred at Edmonton. In October last were purchased 200 Shropshire ewes, the produce of which is thus stated:—

	Lambs.
90 Produced .....	270
100 Produced .....	200
10 Produced .....	10
	480

"Out of the above extraordinary number only nine have been lost; 200 are being brought up by the ewes, the remainder by hand." This certainly is an extraordinary increase, and seems scarcely credible.

From Cambridgeshire similar mischief to the lambs is reported. There, it is said,

Turnips have held out pretty well, and mangold-wurtzel has been this wet spring almost an incalculable benefit, enabling the farmer to take his sheep from the dirty turnip pens and place them upon the sward. But, by the adoption of every prudent precaution, it has been almost impossible to keep the young lambs going on well. On very wet, tenacious soils they are so much stunted, that they will never recover their wonted size and vigour, and many poor little wretches have been dragged to death.

In Somersetshire the season is considered to have been a successful one, though losses from the wet weather have occurred. Here the report is that—

There has been, on the whole, a successful lambing season; for, although the losses have been great, there have been a great many double ones. The high prices, comparatively, of sheep have encouraged their increase; whilst, on the other hand, the calves weaned these two last years have been much less than in former ones. There has been a decided rise in the value of sheep, particularly of couples; and they are relatively high in comparison of fat ones, but in poor stock it is still more the case.

The North Northumberland report thus states the condition of the flocks and stock of that district:—

The range of the Cheviot mountains have been capped with snow, and only partially; therefore the pastoral flock-master has only had a rainy season, and no real winter to contend with. Hay consequently will be all saved for a coming year, but this is by no means considered economising for wool or mutton on our bleak hill districts, a little being considered necessary for keeping the mountain sheep in constitutional trim; they cannot, by any coaxing of the shepherd, be induced to taste hay in the absence of snow and frost. On all dry and enclosed situations the feeding and store sheep have done well; turnips have been plentiful, and a fair proportion of healthy lambs has been produced. Nor have the casualties in the ewe flock been frequent (as in dry cold seasons) from inflammation. House and stall-fed cattle have also come to market plentifully and in prime condition, and, as usual at this season, immense supplies of fat animals are carried by rail and steamboat from Scotland to the manufacturing marts in England.

The following account of the Great Spring Cattle Fair at Barnet, Herts, which commenced on Tuesday last, indicates a decided improvement in the trade for stock:—

This important cattle fair commenced, and was abundantly supplied with many thousands of store beasts from all the principal grazing counties, and well attended by a large class of graziers and the most eminent cattle dealers in the United Kingdom. As early as seven o'clock in the morning drove after drove of cattle kept arriving in rapid succession, for the most part in excellent condition, many of the lots exhibiting very fine breeding. The business men were also early in their attendance, when the two to four-year old beasts were soon selected; but the sellers holding out for an improvement on former prices, caused trade to be very dull until twelve o'clock, when, to effect sale, great abatements were made, the Herefords and Devons making from 8s to 10s per head; Lincoln and short-horn beasts, 10s to 12s ditto; Scots, 6s to 7s ditto; Welsh, 5s to 6s ditto; Irish, 3s to 4s ditto. The Welsh and Irish yearlings made from 1s up to 3s, according to quality. Milch cows ruled steadily, both as to price and demand, and such as had calves by their side of the Yorkshire

breed made from 14l to 17l each. Suffolks, 10l to 13l ditto. Barren cows made from 2s to 2s 6d per stone of silbs. In the horse fair the supply of young horses was very scanty, and the great demand for animals caused prices to be high. Young carriage horses and hunters made from 80 to 100 guineas each, young cart horses, 50 to 70 ditto, ponies under duty 10 to 15 ditto.

### SPIRIT OF THE TRADE CIRCULARS.

(From Messrs Lonsdale and Belknap's Circular.)

New Orleans, Friday, March 21, 1851.

Receipts, Sales, and Exports of Produce, since 1st September, 1850.

	Corn.	Wheat.	Flour.	Lard.	Pork.	Beef.	Tallow.	Pork.
	sacks.	sacks.	bbis.	kgss.	bbis.	bbis.	bbis.	lbs. bulk.
This week.	42,500	5,887	18,310	69,740	8,741	1,010	70	953,826
Receipts .....	413,283	44,085	643,810	565,032	166,328	38,340	5,939	4,902,079
Previously .....	26,230	2,100	17,400	21,614	2,700	420	200	2,400,000
Sales .....	9,000	...	14,700	19,276	12,200	425	...	...
Exports .....	68,435	...	371,313	468,491	121,883	31,642	...	...
Previously .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

\* GRAIN.—The corn market has undergone no quotable change since our last. The receipts, though to a fair extent, are readily disposed of to the trade, (some lots having been taken for shipment to the West Indies,) and market well sustained. Our receipts this season show a deficiency equal to 200,000 sacks, as compared with same date last year. Exported since 1st September, 70,000 sacks, against 314,000 same time last year. Of wheat, several lots have arrived during the week, which have been bought for the City mills, at 65 to 90c per bushel for inferior to prime. Total receipts 50,000 sacks, against 44,000 sacks same time last year.

FLOUR.—The market for flour has continued to improve during the past week, in proportion to the decline in freights, and holders of straight brands are firm at 4 dols, delivered, which is an advance of 30 to 35c per bbl on the prices of last week. Our receipts, compared with same date last year, show an increase of 325,000 bbls; notwithstanding which our present stock of Ohio is moderate and a good demand for export. Exported since 1st September, to New York 62,000; to Boston, 72,000; to other U. S. ports, 91,000; to Great Britain 113,000; to other foreign ports, 34,000 bbls; against a total of 130,000 bbls same time last year.

PROVISIONS.—In pork, the business of the week has been to a very limited extent for barrels, and confined chiefly to the trade, though at improved prices, and holders are firm at the quotations, while for hog round in bulk, large sales have been made at a slight improvement, and very choice lots will now readily command 54 to 55c. Our receipts this season as compared with the same date last year, exhibits a large deficiency as follows: of bbls and tierces, 256,000; of boxes, 17,000; of hhds, 12,000; and of bulk pork 12,000,000 lbs. Exported same time, to New York, 38,000; to Boston, 50,000; to other U. S. ports, 29,000; to Great Britain, 2,500; to other foreign ports, 7,000 bbls and tierces; against a total of 382,000 bbls and tierces same time last year.

In beef, the market has undergone no quotable change, the sales being very limited, and confined to the trade. Receipts to date 28,500 bbls and tierces, against 45,500 same time last year. Exports 31,700 bbls, against 44,000 last year.

### Foreign Correspondence.

From our Paris Correspondent.

Paris, April 17, 1851.

The ministerial combination which was spoken of when I last wrote to you has been finally adopted with several important modifications, and the names of the new ministers were published on Friday last:—M. Rouher has been appointed the Minister of Justice; M. Leon Faucher, Minister of the Interior; M. Baroche, Minister of the Foreign Office; M. Fould, Minister of Finance; M. Buffet, Minister of Trade and Agriculture; M. de Crouseilles, Minister of Public Instruction; M. de Chasseloup Laubat, Minister of the Navy.

The cabinet has been received by a sort of general reprobation. The President was immediately reproached to have chosen a cabinet of defiance. M. Baroche, M. Fould, and M. Rouher had been obliged in January last to withdraw from the Government in consequence of a vote of disidence, as they were accused of having been the promoters of General Changarnier's disgrace. M. Leon Faucher had been also forced to resign under the Constituent Assembly, as he had obtained but five votes in his favour in an order of the day *motive*. It seemed evident that Louis Napoleon did never intend to accept any of the ministers who had been summoned to compose a government. He desired by his protracted negotiation to fatigue the Assembly, and decide them to accept M. Baroche.

On the very first day of the new ministers' appointment there was an attempt to overthrow them. M. de Sainte Beuve presented an order of the day *motive*, declaring that the Assembly persisted in their resolution of January 18, stating that the cabinet had not their confidence.

The attempt of the opposition was unskilful, as it was nearly certain that the majority would not vote such an order of the day against a Government who were scarcely appointed, and had not taken a single measure. The order of the day was indeed negatived, and a simple order of the day was adopted by 327 to 275 votes.

It was then a majority of 52 votes. But 102 members have abstained from taking part in the trial. Among them we may name M. Berryer, M. Thiers, M. Changarnier, and many Legitimists. They had too much dislike to the cabinet to give it a favourable vote, but they did not vote against it.

M. Molé and M. de Broglie have voted in favour of the new cabinet, and it is said that they have promised their support to M. Leon Faucher. But there is such a hatred of several of the ministers, that they will hardly maintain a majority in their favour.

You know that M. Leon Faucher has the repute of being a very haughty and presumptuous man, endeavouring to assume all the influence and authority whenever he joins a government. It is already reported that a difference has arisen between him and M. Baroche in the very first sittings of the cabinet council.

M. Leon Faucher desires a reconciliation of the President and Gen. Changarnier. But M. Baroche will not consent to restore General Changarnier to his late command in chief. The ministers had also



several other little struggles, and Louis Napoleon himself was obliged to intervene.

It is already reported that the cabinet will soon be modified. M. de Falloux would join the Government; he would take the department of Foreign Affairs, and M. Baroche would be appointed Minister of Justice. M. Rouher would withdraw.

The accession of M. Leon Faucher to the cabinet depends on the success of his mission to the Count de Chambord. He has been sent in the name of the legitimists, represented by M. Montalembert, to make a sort of fusion, or rather of provisional treaty between the Legitimists and the Elysee, and obtain the authorisation of the Prince to the prolongation of the powers of Louis Napoleon. The Elysee hope then to obtain the temporary support of a portion of the Legitimist party for the legal revision of the constitution, and for the prolongation, and if that revision cannot be granted by the constitutional majority of two-thirds of the Assembly, they imagine that the Legitimists will abet them in their project to put aside the constitution, decide the revision by the simple majority, and then make an appeal to the people for the re-election of Louis Napoleon.

The petitions in favour of the prolongation begin to be sent to the Assembly. The agents of the President are travelling through the departments, and endeavouring to decide the peasants to vote *en masse* for Louis Napoleon. They will succeed in many localities. But there are also many departments which are rather addicted to Socialism than to Bonapartism, and the success of this manœuvre is very doubtful. Socialism has, indeed, made of late important progress in the provinces, and the Minister of the Interior has received very disquieting reports from the departments. As soon as M. Leon Faucher was appointed to the department of the Interior, he gave orders to about 20 prefects, who were present at Paris, to depart without delay.

The great danger which threatens the public tranquillity is the dulness of trade. The number of workmen who are turned out of the manufactories is increasing every day. There are at this moment about 10,000 unemployed operatives in Paris, and there will be more than 20,000 in the course of next month. The manufacturers of Rouen, Mulhausen, Roubaix, Tourcoing, Lyons, St Etienne, &c., &c., are obliged to reduce the number of their workmen, who are irritated by the want of labour, and disposed to return to their old practices of political agitation.

The public revenue is satisfactory for the first quarter of this year. It amounts, for 1851, to 179,111,000f; and it was for the same period of 1850, 171,688,000f; and in 1849, 168,314,000f.

The increase of the present quarter amounts then to 7,423,000f over 1850, and to 10,767,000f over 1849.

There is an increase over 1850, of 2,241,000f for the stamp duties, of 1,012,000f for liquor duties, of 1,975,000f for the manufacture of beetroot sugar, and of 1,399,000f for the sale of tobacco.

There is a decrease of 920,000f for the sugar of the French colonies, and of 1,503,000f for the foreign sugar.

The following are the variations of our securities from April 10 to April 16 :

	f	c	f	c
The Three per Cents varied from.....	57	50	to 57	25
The Five per Cents .....	53	5	92	65
The Bank Shares .....	2102	50	2115	0
Northern .....	476	75	473	75
Strasb. .....	372	50	570	0
Nantes .....	281	25	278	75
Orleans .....	843	75	832	50
Rouen .....	655	0	640	0
Havre .....	270	0	266	25
Marseilles .....	207	50	2	5 25
Central line.....	443	75	449	0
Bordeaux.....	401	25	400	0

HALF-PAST FOUR.—The market is every day declining, and the French funds will not easily rally as long as there is uncertainty as to the question of revision of the constitution.

The 5 per Cents. declined from 92f 45c to 92f 10c, and left off at 92f 25c; the 3 per Cents. from 57f 15c to 57f; the Bank Shares from 2,105f to 2,100f; Northern from 475f to 475f 50c; Strasburg from 371f 25c to 375f; Nantes from 267f 50c to 266f 25c; Orleans from 835f to 832f 50c; Rouen from 642f 50c to 635f.

## Correspondence.

### SUGAR REFINING.

To the Editor of the Economist.

SIR.—From the excitement now prevailing among parties interested in the sugar-refining trade of this country, with reference to the amount of bounty obtained by the Dutch, on exportation of refined sugar to Britain, I am induced to address you, under the conviction that the advantages enjoyed by the Dutch, and stated by Mr C. Coles, jun., to be about 3s 6d per cwt, has been much over rated, and British refiners discouraged without reasonable cause.

The present depression in the refining trade I believe to be entirely of a temporary nature, brought on by over-production during dull and falling markets, and not from the effects of Dutch bounties. During a great part of last year both English and continental refiners found a ready sale for the product of their works at gradually improving prices, thereby yielding them good profits on their stocks without reference to the ordinary profits of the business. Nearly every sugar house was in consequence worked to its full extent; an extra demand was thus created for the raw material, and prices further advanced beyond what was warrantable. Towards the end of the year a reaction took place, since which there has been a gradual decline in all descriptions of sugar, the effect of which has been severely felt by refiners, owing to their large stocks and a continuation of production beyond demand.

From the great variety of qualities of sugar it is difficult to select proper grounds for calculations. The best I can take will be such as will correspond as nearly as possible with what I presume must have been Government calculations when framing the differential scale of duties, and which I believe to have been adopted after much careful investigation; and, as an old sugar refiner, I admit to be as fair as could be made for average returns, with perhaps one ex-

ception, being that stated below in No. 3, in which foreign muscovado (an article little better than Khaur) is calculated to yield 90 lbs of white clayed. I think no such return could be obtained.

### GOVERNMENT SCALE FOR DIFFERENTIAL DUTIES.

Equivalents.	lbs	Colonial duty.		Foreign duty.	
		Rate	Amount	Rate	Amount
Refined sugar.....	56	14 8	7 4	22 8	11 4
Brown .....	28	11 0	2 9	17 0	4 3
Treacle or syrup .....	25	4 2	0 11	5 9	1 3
Waste.....	3	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 2
Colonial muscovado or foreign brown clayed duty .....	112		11 0		17 0
No. II.					
Refined sugar.....	74	14 8	9 8	22 8	15 0
Treacle or syrup .....	75	4 2	1 4	5 9	1 10
Waste .....	3	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 2
Colonial muscovado or foreign brown clayed duty .....	112		11 0		17 0
No. III.					
White clayed sugar .....	90	12 10	10 4	18 1	14 7
Treacle or syrup .....	19	4 2	0 8	5 9	0 11
Waste .....	3	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0
Colonial or foreign muscovado or foreign duty .....	112		11 0		15 0
No. IV.					
Bastards.....	43	11 0	4 2	15 6	5 9
Treacle .....	50	Free.	0 0	0 0	0 0
Waste .....	20	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0
Molasses duty.....	112		4 2		5 9

In Holland the refiners work under bond, and (according to the explanation given in your last number) for every 100 kilogrammes of raw sugar taken into use they are charged duty 18½ florins, of which they pay 5 per cent. cash down, and are debited by the Customs for the balance. This duty amounts as near as possible to 11s per cwt. On exportation they are credited with 9½ florins per 50 kilogrammes loaves or lumps, being equal to about 15s 6d per cwt. The export, therefore, of about 68½ kilogrammes of refined will balance the import duty on 100 kilogrammes of raw, except the 5 per cent. which is not returned; and being allowed to boil fine qualities of raw sugar, they may, with such, be able to extract the full quantity named—say:—

Refined sugar .....	6¼ per cent.	or 77 lbs per cwt.
Treacle or syrup .....	2½	—
Waste .....	2½	—
	109	112

Assuming these quantities of refined and treacle to be extracted from one cwt of foreign brown clayed sugar, the following duties would be paid by the refiners of each country:—

	lbs	Rate.	Duties paid.	
	s	d	s	d
English refiner.—English duty on brown clayed sugar	112	17 0	17 0	
Dutch refiner.—Dutch deposit, 5 per cent. on raw sugar duty, say 11s .....			0 7	
English duty on refined sugar .....	77	22 8	15 7	
Syrup or treacle for Dutch consump. 32 ..	Free.	0 0	0 0	
Waste .....	3	0 0	0 0	
	112		16 2	

Balance in favour of Dutch refiner..... 0 10

Assuming the quantities of refined and treacle extracted to correspond with the English Government proportions as shown before in table No. 2, the following duties would be paid by each:—

	lbs	Rate.	Duties paid.	
	s	d	s	d
English refiner.—English duty on brown clayed sugar	112	17 0	17 0	
Dutch refiner.—Dutch deposit, 5 per cent. on raw sugar duty, say 11s .....			0 7	
Dutch duty, in proportion of refined, short of 18½ per cwt .....	3	11 0	0 4	
English duty on refined sugar .....	74	22 8	15 0	
Syrup or treacle for Dutch consump. 32 ..	Free.	0 0	0 0	
Waste .....	3	0 0	0 0	
	112		15 11	

Balance in favour of Dutch refiner..... 1 1

These explanations show that the advantage in favour of Dutch refiners is only 10d and 1s 1d per cwt, and the syrup or treacle admitted duty free for Dutch consumption. This last advantage is, however, enjoyed by English refiners to a greater extent in bastard boiling as shown before in table No. 4; and if freights and charges on the refined shipped to this country from Holland are taken into calculation, I am inclined to think there will remain "a Dutch account" of bounties to our foreign friends. Sugar refining is a trade which can only be supported in this country under a certain amount of "protection." This has been thoroughly acknowledged by Government in the adoption of the differential scale of duties. Were all sugars admitted at one rate of duty, without reference to quality, as is done with other leading articles of commerce, English refiners could not possibly compete with foreign or colonial refiners; but even with the protection now given to the trade the present sugar duty bill is far from satisfactory to refiners; and in anticipation of some changes, the following plan for refining under bond has been suggested and merits support:—

"Colonial sugars to be taken into the refineries without payment of any duty.

On foreign sugars the differential duty to be paid when taken out of the bonded warehouse. The differential duty having thus been paid all sugars, in the refinery are reduced to the level of colonial, and when taken into home consumption to pay duties chargeable on colonial sugars.

The differential duty paid by the refiner to be passed to his credit in the Customs book, and such amount may be repaid him in drawbacks if he exports equal to that amount within a limited period. Thus, suppose a refiner to take 100 tons foreign sugar on which 17s per cwt is now chargeable, he pays 6s per cwt, or 600l, and this sum stands at his credit say for six months, during which time he is entitled to export and to receive drawbacks calculated in proportion to 6s duty until he exhausts 600l; but in all cases he is limited to the amount of differential duty he has paid."

In addition, I would further suggest that it shall be optional for refiners to work under bond or not as they may themselves desire. Bastard boilers are not likely to avail themselves of the privilege. Treacle or syrup to be allowed to be used for distillation, if taken from refineries under bond.

Fine white Bengal sugar known as "Benares," to be charged duty as white clayed, the privilege now allowed of passing this description of sugar as muscovado being an injustice both to Bengal and English refiners, and profitable only to the natives of Bengal, who in consequence are enabled to obtain proportionally higher rates for this class of sugar from English merchants in India.

Yours truly,  
AN OLD REFINER.

Liverpool, April 2, 1851.

[The proposed method for refining in bond is precisely the plan that was so carefully considered nearly three years ago by the Government and the trade, and which was then rejected by both, as necessarily involving the necessity of so close a supervision of the Excise for the double object of protecting the revenue and the fair trader, as would make the inconvenience of the restrictions far exceed any advantages which could be derived from it otherwise.—Ed. Econ.]

## Imperial Parliament.

### HOUSE OF LORDS.

Friday, April 11.

[CONTINUED FROM OUR LAST.]

Lord Brougham entered at some length into the details of his proposed Law of Evidence Bill, which upon his motion was read a second time. Some other bills were advanced a stage, and their lordships adjourned.

Monday, April 14.

Lord Brougham moved for certain returns connected with the working of the County Courts.

The Church Building Act was read a second time on the motion of Lord Carlisle.

A petition presented by Lord Monteagle, on the subject of local assessments for the construction of railways in the south of Ireland, was ordered to lie on the table.

Lord Stanley presented a petition from the inhabitants of British Guiana, praying for an entire alteration of the representative system in that colony. After detailing the evils of the existing system, the noble lord concluded by stating, that as Guiana was a Crown colony, in which the Crown could exercise complete power, he hoped the Government would give them the benefit of a direct representation as soon as the colony was in a condition to justify the change.

Earl Grey agreed with the noble lord in thinking that Guiana should have free institutions as soon as it was fit to receive them. In the mean time it would be better to endeavour to improve the existing institutions of the colony, rather than to sweep them away, and substitute for them an untried scheme.

After some further discussion the matter dropped.

On the motion of Earl Grey, the house then adjourned till Thursday the 1st of May.

### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Friday, April 11.

[CONTINUED FROM OUR LAST.]

Mr Disraeli, after reverting to the acknowledgment of agricultural distress contained in the royal speech, contended that the ministers had thereby assumed the responsibility of providing, or at least, seeking, a remedy. When the ministry declined the task, the responsibility fell upon the House of Commons, and a sense of this duty had prompted expressions on that (the protectionist) side of the house, which, though negatived by a narrow majority, had sufficed to shake the cabinet to its centre. Passing on to the financial schemes proposed by the Government, the honourable member remarked upon the unanimous censures which had followed the promulgation of the first budget, but which he confessed it had not deserved. Yet, amidst all the agitation against his project, no less than in the project itself, there was a total absence of any cry from the agriculturists. After a crisis and an interregnum, there was a re-constructed ministry, and re-modelled budget, in which the Chancellor of the Exchequer showed himself a friend only to those who had proclaimed themselves his enemies, making all his concession to the agitators, and providing some trifling additions to these donatives by rescinding the paltry boon he had at first offered to the agricultural interest. This he declared was an act of unstatesmanlike caprice; and upon reviewing the whole tenor of the ministerial policy during the session, characterised it as unjust, vacillating, and inconsistent. Approaching the special question he had proposed, Mr Disraeli entered into calculations to show the measure of agricultural distress. Estimating the rental of the country at sixty millions a year, the loss on this amount was, or soon would be, understated at 10 per cent., making six millions. The farmer's capital, supposed to be 300 millions while the corn law lasted, had since undergone a depreciation of 100 millions. Here he maintained was a cause of suffering that demanded, not relief from an impoverished exchequer, but consideration when a surplus had to be distributed. Adverting to the Government proposition for transferring to the consolidated fund some of the cost of pauper lunatics, he deduced from it an admission of the principle that all paupers ought to be maintained out of the general revenue, and a partial adoption of this course he recommended as a great relief to the occupiers of land. A similar change might also be effected with regard to the expenditure upon goals. Besides these a sum of 1,700,000 per annum was levied in conjunction with the poor rate, but not devoted to the support of the poor, forming an extra burthen upon the land, to alleviate which the financial surplus might have been justly and beneficially employed. This, he argued, would be a better boon than the window tax. The benefit thus conferred was not to be merely estimated by its gross amount, because it would carry relief to the districts where it was most wanted and the rates were heaviest. For the removal of what were called the "establishment" charges, he considered that the landed interest could prefer an undeniable claim. This amounted, for England and Ireland, to 750,000 per year. Submitting these propositions to the Government, he contrasted them with the policy they had themselves indicated, and which presented nothing but an aggregate of anomalies. Eulogising the industry, the loyalty, and the patience of the agriculturists under all sufferings and all disappointments, he demanded, on their behalf, that while other classes enjoyed untaxed bread, they might be allowed to possess untaxed labour. In this claim, he submitted there was nothing that threatened a reversal of the free-trade policy, and nothing that could disturb the shade of Peel. He wished only that the ministry, during the holidays, would reconsider their budget.

Mr Labouchere hardly knew how to treat the resolution as serious. Mr Disraeli had hinted at changes quite inconsistent with the remission of the window tax, and nevertheless had declared his intention to support that measure. He placed the question upon this basis. There was a million and a half of surplus to distribute; how might it be most beneficially applied? On this

point he examined the practical effects of various propositions, contending that the modifications of the window duty would afford a generally higher relief to the farmers themselves than either a diminution of the income tax, suggested by Mr Herries, or the transference of certain branches of local taxation which had just been recommended by the member for Buckinghamshire. With the abstract terms of the amendment he found no fault, except that it was out of place when brought forward as a stop to the financial business of the session. Altogether, the proposition was an enigma requiring for its solution that carefully omitted word, protection; and he challenged the proposer to express his hidden meaning in unmistakable phrase. Respecting the statements regarding general prosperity, Mr Labouchere reminded the house that since 1815, and under the rule of protection, the agriculturists had passed through three periods of distress equally severe with that endured at present. Contending that no cause had been shown why the financial scheme of the Government should not proceed, he trusted that the house would not allow the discussion to be clogged with vague generalities.

Mr Gladstone, without approving entirely either of the ministerial project or that of Mr Disraeli, felt obliged to elect between them upon a balance of advantages. Viewed in connection with contemporary incidents, he looked upon the resolution before them as having some relationship with protection, whose restoration the party stood pledged to attempt. Admitting the possibility that the incidence of the local taxation was unjust to the land, he could not consent to alter it before the question of protection were finally settled. Turning to the financial scheme of the Government, he briefly touched upon the necessities that had justified the past imposition of the income tax, and then laid down the axiom that the tax must be equitably classified, or it could not be made permanent. Difficulties, apparently insuperable, stood in the way of classification, and we must, therefore, prepare to dispense hereafter with this source of revenue. Under this expectation, he regretted the large sacrifice proposed upon the house tax, especially with regard to the exemption of houses below 20l. This placed the tax upon a false basis, and cut away the foundation of what seemed to be the best impost, partaking of the nature of a tax upon property, wherewith we might, in future years, replace the income tax. He proceeded to vindicate the policy by which duties were removed from raw materials and articles of general consumption, and preferred the ministerial budget, where this policy was partially adopted, to that of Mr Disraeli, in which it was wholly ignored.

Mr Stafford commented upon the diversity of the financial doctrines advocated by the ministerial supporters, to all of which he insinuated Mr Gladstone had shown a fickle bias. Ministers, he remarked, tried to shelter themselves under every failure and blunder, by raising a warning shout against protection; but they might happen to cry "wolf" too often. He inquired what was the real meaning of free trade, and after giving various illustrations of high and low prices, concluded that the latter signified nothing but dear money.

Mr Alcock opposed the amendment of Mr Disraeli, as did

Mr Sanders, who could not consent to a motion which must deprive the country of the benefits to be expected from a repeal of the window tax.

Lord J. Manners considered the permanence of our boasted manufacturing prosperity extremely doubtful. It could not endure, he contended, unless the home market were cultivated, and the agricultural consumers raised from their depression. This was impossible under their present burthens, and while they were left to struggle against foreign competition.

Mr Bright stated the case assumed by Mr Disraeli to be a claim for special relief on the plea of special distress. He denied one-half of this case altogether. There was no proof that the owners of land were seriously injured. Rents had fallen very slightly, and in some places not at all. Fluctuations were experienced in all trades. The ironmasters were now suffering from a diminished demand. The Yorkshire clothiers were suffering from the high prices of wool, by which the farmers benefited. Agricultural distress was a chronic malady, not arising from legislation, or to be cured by a legislative remedy, and least of all by the contrivances suggested by Mr Disraeli. Returns showed that the contribution paid from the land to the poor rate had diminished by one-half since 1833. The farmers were suffering from the effects of a vicious system, and for their relief he suggested improved business arrangements, more skilful husbandry, adju-ted rents, and abolished game laws.

Mr Reynolds, intending to support the amendment, cited its terms and found therein nothing in which he could not agree. Its intent was not to restore protection, but to secure for the agriculturists a share in the booty offered in the Treasury surplus.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer contended that Mr Disraeli had violated all consistency, by consenting to support a proposition, and yet moving an amendment which utterly defeated it. He pointed out the relief to the agriculturists contained in the financial scheme of the Government, and remarked that the reductions offered upon lunatic asylums would not have been withdrawn if the party it was intended to benefit had shown any sense of its value. He dared the complainants of distress among the labourers to deny that the condition of the peasantry throughout England was better than ever before. Wages had nowhere fallen one-half, but prices had. Regretting the baneful activity of rural demagogues, he unhesitatingly trusted the question to the good sense of the country.

Mr Miles supported the amendment, as did Mr Newdegate, amidst much impatience for a division.

Sir R. Peel, identifying himself with the agricultural interest, although a free trader, intended to vote for Mr Disraeli's proposition.

Lord Norreys would oppose it.

After a few words from Sir W. Jolliffe, and an explanation from Sir C. Wood, Colonel Sibthorp declared that he supported the amendment from a sense of duty.

Lord J. Russell declared that the motions so often proposed to them upon agricultural distress were based upon a delusion. It was assumed that the owners and occupiers of land did not share in the relief afforded by remission of taxation upon articles of consumption. He contended, on the contrary, that the true interests of that class were identified with the general prosperity. These resolutions were offered under false pretences. Before the house the idea of protection was denied, but to their constituents the promise was held out that the result was to be attained indirectly. Such a tortuous proceeding was unworthy the leaders of a great party.

Mr M. O'Connell passed some strictures upon the speech of Mr Reynolds, to which Mr Keogh replied.

Sir T. D. Acland disclaimed any party motive for the vote he designed to give in favour of the amendment.

Mr J. O'Connell commented upon the speech of Mr Keogh.

Mr Grattan supported the amendment.

The house divided—for the amendment, 250; against it, 263; majority for ministers, 13.

The house rose at a quarter past 2.

Monday, April 14.

Mr E. Ellice, the chairman of the St Alban's Election Committee, in reporting that Mr Jacob Bell, the sitting member for that borough, had been duly elected,

reported further the opinion of the committee that gross corruption had prevailed at the last election, and on former occasions, and suggested the appointment of a legislative commission into the corrupt practices alleged to be customary in the borough of St Alban's. The hon. member gave notice that he should move for leave to bring in a bill for the appointment of commissioners for that purpose.

Upon the order of the day for resuming the adjourned debate on consideration of the minutes of proceedings of the St Alban's Election Committee,

Mr Aglionby, who had moved the discharge of Henry Edwards from custody without payment of fees, amended his motion by including therein a proposition to discharge the warrants issued against Waggett, Hayward, Skeggs, and Birchmore, whose persons had not been taken.

Mr Bankes and Mr Roundell Palmer objected to the discharge of Edwards, until he had been brought to the bar.

The Solicitor-General had no doubt the man had been formally committed, so that his committal could not be questioned in a court of law; but the house might look behind the order, and it might then appear that it had been hasty in adopting the report of the committee. Under these circumstances, he suggested whether the house would not do well to discharge Edwards on payment of his fees.

Sir F. Theisger, who reminded the house that the conduct imputed to Edwards had defeated justice, dissented from the suggestion of the Solicitor-General, having no doubt as to the legality of the committee's proceedings.

Sir G. Grey observed that Edwards had made no application for his discharge; and unless he made submission to the house, or established at the bar the qualified denial contained in his petition, he thought he should be sent to Newgate as a punishment.

The Master of the Rolls assigned reasons why, in his opinion, the motion of Mr Aglionby ought not to be acceded to, and suggested that the debate should be adjourned until Tuesday, to afford Edwards an opportunity of presenting a petition to the house.

Lord J. Russell concurred in this suggestion, and moved by way of amendment that the debate be adjourned until Tuesday.

Sir J. Graham said, if this person had been committed for contempt, he had done nothing to purge his contempt, and he should be committed at once to Newgate.

Mr Aglionby protested against committing a man to Newgate without hearing him. In his petition he had disclaimed any intentional contempt, and desired to be heard.

The Attorney-General assented to this observation, and urged the house to adopt the motion of Lord John Russell for an adjournment of the debate.

This motion, after some further discussion, was carried upon a division by 108 to 87.

The house then went into committee upon the Assessed Taxes Act, where Sir H. Willoughby moved to exclude from the resolution for imposing a house tax the words "and gardens;" but upon the assurance of the Chancellor of the Exchequer that he intended to alter the bill in this respect so far as it would effect market gardeners, and to limit the operation of the bill upon gardens appurtenant to houses to gardens and pleasure grounds not exceeding one acre in extent, he withdrew his motion.

Other propositions for modifying the tax were reserved until the committee on the bill.

The resolutions were agreed to, and the house then went into committee upon the Timber and Coffee Duties Acts, when

The Chancellor of the Exchequer repeated his reasons for equalising the duty on colonial and foreign coffee, the imports of colonial coffee exceeding the demand for home consumption by 5,000,000 lbs, which showed that the colonial coffee producers would not be injured by the removal of the differential duty. He proposed to impose an equal duty of 3d per lb upon colonial and foreign coffee, without the 5 per cent.

The subject of the discriminating duties, and that of the Treasury minute sanctioning the adulteration of coffee with chicory, underwent a good deal of discussion.

The resolutions were agreed to.

On the motion for going into committee of supply,

Sir De Lacy Evans called the attention of the house to the interior decoration of the new House of Commons, which, he said, had been persisted in by the architect in opposition to the declared wishes of the members of the house that the fittings up should be of a plain character, until stopped by the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Mr T. Greene had been aware of the desire expressed in the house that the new chamber should be unadorned, and he thought Mr Barry fully understood this. He had, however, not done so; but it was not thought expedient to incur the expense of scraping the decorations off again.

Sir D. Norreys defended Mr Barry, as did Colonel Rawdon, who read Mr Barry's reply to the charge of acting against the expressed wishes of the house, which, he said, had not been communicated to him in an authoritative manner, and Colonel Rawdon complained of the terms of the notice given by Sir De Lacy Evans, as conveying an imputation upon the architect's professional character.

The discussion was continued for some time, after which the house went into committee of supply upon the Army Estimates of the non-effective services.

All the votes were agreed to.

The Expenses of Prosecutions Bill was read a third time and passed.

The Stamp Duties Assimilation Bill, and the Exchequer-bills Bill, passed through committee.

The Sale of Arsenic Regulation Bill was read a second time.

The other business having been gone through, the house adjourned at one o'clock.

*Tuesday, April 15.*

New writs were moved for Boston and Cork, in consequence of the death of Captain Pelham and the resignation of Mr Fagan.

Lord John Russell announced the following as the course of public business after the Easter holidays:—The Income Tax Bill, on Monday, the 28th April; the Jews Bill, on Thursday, the 1st May, and the Navy Estimates the same day; the committee on the Income Tax, on Friday, the 2nd May; and the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill, on Monday, the 5th May.

It was agreed that the house at its rising should adjourn till Monday, the 28th inst.

A great number of notices of motion were given, among which were a notice of motion on the 8th of May, by Mr Cayley, for the repeal of the malt tax; and one, for the same date, by Mr Baillie, on the affairs of Ceylon. Mr Hume also gave notice of a motion on parliamentary reform for the 13th May.

The consideration of the petition of Edwards, committed by the St Alban's election committee for keeping out of the way witnesses who, it was alleged, could prove improper conduct on the part of the agents of Mr Jacob Bell, was then gone into, and the result was that Edwards was committed to Newgate.

Mr Adderley then moved an address to her Majesty, praying the appointment of one or more commissioners, with instructions to proceed to South Africa, to inquire and report as to the best mode of adjusting the relations

between this country and the Kafir tribes; and also of determining the engagements entered into by her Majesty's High Commissioner in his settlement of the extended territory. He observed that, for the last two years, there had been no regular government at the Cape of Good Hope, and that the Governor there had exerted an entirely despotic power. Our attempt at the administration of the colony had utterly failed. He entered into an examination of the conduct of Sir Harry Smith, glancing at the recent rebellion, and the undignified escape of Sir Harry from the rebels, describing him as just as much a prisoner as ever, with the important difference that he was now shut up with 5,000 men. Describing this Kafir war as different from any previous one, inasmuch as it was a war, not for plunder, but for the recovery of territory, he said that the fault of our method of dealing with the Kafir tribes was that it was neither the coercive policy which should restrain them, nor the civilising policy which should conciliate them, but an unfortunate mixture of the two systems. It was difficult to say which system should be adopted, but there could be no doubt that a policy partaking of both must fail, and there could also be no doubt that such mingled policy was at present that of Earl Grey. In advocating his proposal, he said that he strenuously opposed that of Lord John Russell, on account of the delay it would cause, adding that, though Sir W. Molesworth's plan was very simple, it would occasion injustice towards many individuals whose interests were bound up with the present system. He concluded by moving the above-mentioned address.

Lord John Russell referred to the various important periods in the history of the Cape colony to show that the policy we had adopted towards the Kafirs had been the necessary result of the principle of self-preservation. Paying a tribute to the military and general talents of Sir Harry Smith, his lordship said that he, like his predecessors, had been sedulously endeavouring to find a remedy against the mischievous incursions of the frontier tribes. The misplaced boundary of the colony had been one great reason why these incursions had been often too successful; but the Dutch, the original proprietors, had established an organised system of defence, which, however, had been too indiscriminate in its severity against the natives. This system had been disallowed by the government of Lord Stanley, but on that occasion the colonists had urged that if that system were to be abolished they should be permitted to frame another, or else that the Imperial Government should itself defend them from savage incursion. He referred to the sanguinary incidents of the administration of Sir B. d'Urban as a proof that what had recently taken place was neither novel, nor could be legitimately brought forward as a charge against the Government, and added that Sir B. d'Urban had advised the extension of the frontier. He traced the steps which had been taken in regard to an abandonment of the new frontier, and to treaties with the native chiefs, under the administration of Lord Glenelg, and adverted to the troubles which had been the almost continuous consequence, alluding to the vigorous measures which Sir Peregrine Maitland had found it necessary to adopt. Sir H. Pottinger had pursued the same policy, but, like Sir H. Smith, he had endeavoured to govern the Kafirs through their chiefs. He followed up the argument that Sir H. Smith had only trodden in the steps of his predecessors: he commented upon the different alternations of policy which had been suggested to Government; and defended the course which had been adopted as that which offered the greatest possibility of security combined with humanity. But the circumstances which had occurred fully justified his intended recommendation that a committee be appointed to inquire into the question. He conceived that there were numerous persons in England qualified to give the necessary information. The committee might suggest a commission to the colony, as proposed by Mr Adderley, but he thought it would be premature to propose such a commission in the present stage. He therefore moved, as an amendment to Mr Adderley's motion, that a select committee be appointed to inquire into the relations between this country and the Kafir and other tribes on our South African frontier.

Mr Vernon Smith objected to both motions, conceiving the subject to be entirely one for the consideration of the Executive Government. And he did not see what witnesses could be called before a committee, except officials who had already, by their acts and despatches, expressed their opinion on the question of the government of the colony. At the same time he contended that our system must be changed, for we had made no progress whatever in civilising or conciliating the natives. He thought also that the colony itself had done nothing to entitle it to encouragement from the Home Government. He advocated the restriction of the power of the governor of the colony in regard to military enterprise.

Mr F. Scott would support Lord John Russell's amendment. He condemned the "Bombastes Furioso policy" of Sir H. Smith, and said he considered Lord John Russell's amendment as amounting to a censure upon the colonial policy we had hitherto pursued.

Mr Mackinnon defended Sir H. Smith, and dwelt upon the difficulties of his position between barbarism and civilisation.

Mr Gladstone said that such difficulties were great, no doubt, but might be successfully dealt with. He proceeded to state that one of his objections to the appointment of a committee upon such a subject as this was, that it removed responsibility from the shoulders of the Executive, upon which it ought to rest. Besides this objection, which in the present instance had great weight, there was that of the delay which would be caused by referring the matter to a committee, by which means it would be kept in suspense for a couple of years, only to be the subject of debate at last. Experience did not testify in favour of select committees as a machinery for bringing colonies into a desirable condition, and he should regard such a step in the present case as a step in the wrong direction. Such questions as those which recent events had raised should be discussed in the localities in which they had originated. The most scandalous corruption prevailed in the management of the Cape war, which was a fruitful source of demoralisation; and the responsibility of such wars should lie with the parties interested in them. Appeals might be made, on the ground of humanity, against the proposed policy; but he had yet to learn that the colonists were not perfectly well able to defend themselves. If they should prove to be unable, this country would gladly help them. The only rational plan for making a colony vigorous and self-relying was the founding it in freedom, and the giving its government into its own hands. He thought the bribe of a military expenditure a miserable resource upon which to rely for securing the attachment of colonists, and for preventing the apprehended dismemberment of the empire.

Lord Mandeville would support Lord J. Russell's amendment, thinking inquiry might be advantageous.

Colonel Thompson expressed his opinion that we had ill-treated the African semi-barbarians.

Sir E. N. Buxton objected to the withdrawal of Imperial interference from the colony, as the result would be that the Kafirs would be "eaten up." He regretted that Lord Glenelg's policy of justice and conciliation had not been adhered to, and believed that, by leaving the Boers to deal with the natives, expense would not be lightened, and cruelty would be greatly increased.

Mr Roebuck derided the arguments of the last speaker, and declared unhesitatingly, that wherever the Anglo-Saxon came, an inferior man must and ought to vanish from before him, for that he came to plant a nation of a higher intelligence. But it was nonsense to talk about "justice" (as it was understood

Fine white Bengal sugar known as "Benares," to be charged duty as white clayed, the privilege now allowed of passing this description of sugar as muscovado being an injustice both to Bengal and English refiners, and profitable only to the natives of Bengal, who in consequence are enabled to obtain proportionally higher rates for this class of sugar from English merchants in India.

Yours truly,

AN OLD REFINER.

Liverpool, April 2, 1851.

[The proposed method for refining in bonl is precisely the plan that was so carefully considered nearly three years ago by the Government and the trade, and which was then rejected by both, as necessarily involving the necessity of so close a supervision of the Excise for the double object of protecting the revenue and the fair trader, as would make the inconvenience of the restrictions far exceed any advantages which could be derived from it otherwise.—ED. ECON.]

## Imperial Parliament.

### HOUSE OF LORDS.

Friday, April 11.

[CONTINUED FROM OUR LAST.]

Lord Brougham entered at some length into the details of his proposed Law of Evidence Bill, which upon his motion was read a second time.

Some other bills were advanced a stage, and their lordships adjourned.

Monday, April 14.

Lord Brougham moved for certain returns connected with the working of the County Courts.

The Church Building Act was read a second time on the motion of Lord Carlisle.

A petition presented by Lord Monteagle, on the subject of local assessments for the construction of railways in the south of Ireland, was ordered to lie on the table.

Lord Stanley presented a petition from the inhabitants of British Guiana, praying for an entire alteration of the representative system in that colony. After detailing the evils of the existing system, the noble lord concluded by stating, that as Guiana was a Crown colony, in which the Crown could exercise complete power, he hoped the Government would give them the benefit of a direct representation as soon as the colony was in a condition to justify the change.

Earl Grey agreed with the noble lord in thinking that Guiana should have free institutions as soon as it was fit to receive them. In the mean time it would be better to endeavour to improve the existing institutions of the colony, rather than to sweep them away, and substitute for them an untried scheme.

After some further discussion the matter dropped.

On the motion of Earl Grey, the house then adjourned till Thursday the 1st of May.

### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Friday, April 11.

[CONTINUED FROM OUR LAST.]

Mr Disraeli, after reverting to the acknowledgment of agricultural distress contained in the royal speech, contended that the ministers had thereby assumed the responsibility of providing, or at least, seeking, a remedy. When the ministry declined the task, the responsibility fell upon the House of Commons, and a sense of this duty had prompted expressions on that (the protectionist) side of the house, which, though negatived by a narrow majority, had sufficed to shake the cabinet to its centre. Passing on to the financial schemes proposed by the Government, the honourable member remarked upon the unanimous censures which had followed the promulgation of the first budget, but which he confessed it had not deserved. Yet, amidst all the agitation against his project, no less than in the project itself, there was a total absence of any cry from the agriculturists. After a crisis and an interregnum, there was a re-constructed ministry, and re-modelled budget, in which the Chancellor of the Exchequer showed himself a friend only to those who had proclaimed themselves his enemies, making all his concession to the agitators, and providing some trifling additions to these donatives by rescinding the paltry boon he had at first offered to the agricultural interest. This he declared was an act of unstatesmanlike caprice; and upon reviewing the whole tenor of the ministerial policy during the session, characterised it as unjust, vacillating, and inconsistent. Approaching the special question he had proposed, Mr Disraeli entered into calculations to show the measure of agricultural distress. Estimating the rental of the country at sixty millions a year, the loss on this amount was, or soon would be, understated at 10 per cent., making six millions. The farmer's capital, supposed to be 300 millions while the corn law lasted, had since undergone a depreciation of 100 millions. Here he maintained was a cause of suffering that demanded, not relief from an impoverished exchequer, but consideration when a surplus had to be distributed. Adverting to the Government proposition for transferring to the consolidated fund some of the cost of pauper lunatics, he deduced from it an admission of the principle that all paupers ought to be maintained out of the general revenue, and a partial adoption of this course he recommended as a great relief to the occupiers of land. A similar change might also be effected with regard to the expenditure upon goals. Besides these a sum of 1,700,000 per annum was levied in conjunction with the poor rate, but not devoted to the support of the poor, forming an extra burthen upon the land, to alleviate which the financial surplus might have been justly and beneficially employed. This, he argued, would be a better boon than the window tax. The benefit thus conferred was not to be merely estimated by its gross amount, because it would carry relief to the districts where it was most wanted and the rates were heaviest. For the removal of what were called the "establishment" charges, he considered that the landed interest could prefer an undeniable claim. This amounted, for England and Ireland, to 750,000 per year. Submitting these propositions to the Government, he contrasted them with the policy they had themselves indicated, and which presented nothing but an aggregate of anomalies. Eulogising the industry, the loyalty, and the patience of the agriculturists under all sufferings and all disappointments, he demanded, on their behalf, that while other classes enjoyed untaxed bread, they might be allowed to possess untaxed labour. In this claim, he submitted there was nothing that threatened a reversal of the free-trade policy, and nothing that could disturb the shade of Peel. He wished only that the ministry, during the holidays, would reconsider their budget.

Mr Labouchere hardly knew how to treat the resolution as serious. Mr Disraeli had hinted at changes quite inconsistent with the remission of the window tax, and nevertheless had declared his intention to support that measure. He placed the question upon this basis. There was a million and a half of surplus to distribute; how might it be most beneficially applied? On this

point he examined the practical effects of various propositions, contending that the modifications of the window duty would afford a generally higher relief to the farmers themselves than either a diminution of the income tax, suggested by Mr Herries, or the transference of certain branches of local taxation which had just been recommended by the member for Buckinghamshire. With the abstract terms of the amendment he found no fault, except that it was out of place when brought forward as a stop to the financial business of the session. Altogether, the proposition was an enigma requiring for its solution that carefully omitted word, protection; and he challenged the proposer to express his hidden meaning in unmistakable phrase. Respecting the statements regarding general prosperity, Mr Labouchere reminded the house that since 1815, and under the rule of protection, the agriculturists had passed through three periods of distress equally severe with that endured at present. Contending that no cause had been shown why the financial scheme of the Government should not proceed, he trusted that the house would not allow the discussion to be clogged with vague generalities.

Mr Gladstone, without approving entirely either of the ministerial project or that of Mr Disraeli, felt obliged to elect between them upon a balance of advantages. Viewed in connection with contemporary incidents, he looked upon the resolution before them as having some relationship with protection, whose restoration the party stood pledged to attempt. Admitting the possibility that the incidence of the local taxation was a just to the land, he could not consent to alter it before the question of protection were finally settled. Turning to the financial scheme of the Government, he briefly touched upon the necessities that had justified the past imposition of the income tax, and then laid down the axiom that the tax must be equitably classified, or it could not be made permanent. Difficulties, apparently insuperable, stood in the way of classification, and we must, therefore, prepare to dispense hereafter with this source of revenue. Under this expectation, he regretted the large sacrifice proposed upon the house tax, especially with regard to the exemption of houses below 20*l*. This placed the tax upon a false basis, and cut away the foundation of what seemed to be the best impost, partaking of the nature of a tax upon property, wherewith we might, in future years, replace the income tax. He proceeded to vindicate the policy by which duties were removed from raw materials and articles of general consumption, and preferred the ministerial budget, where this policy was partially adopted, to that of Mr Disraeli, in which it was wholly ignored.

Mr Stafford commented upon the diversity of the financial doctrines advocated by the ministerial supporters, to all of which he insinuated Mr Gladstone had shown a fickle bias. Ministers, he remarked, tried to shelter themselves under every failure and blunder, by raising a warning shout against protection; but they might happen to cry "wolf" too often. He inquired what was the real meaning of free trade, and after giving various illustrations of high and low prices, concluded that the latter signified nothing but dear money.

Mr Alcock opposed the amendment of Mr Disraeli, as did

Mr Sandars, who could not consent to a motion which must deprive the country of the benefits to be expected from a repeal of the window tax.

Lord J. Manners considered the permanence of our boasted manufacturing prosperity extremely doubtful. It could not endure, he contended, unless the home market were cultivated, and the agricultural consumers raised from their depression. This was impossible under their present burthens, and while they were left to struggle against foreign competition.

Mr Bright stated the case assumed by Mr Disraeli to be a claim for special relief on the plea of special distress. He denied one-half of this case altogether. There was no proof that the owners of land were seriously injured. Rents had fallen very slightly, and in some places not at all. Fluctuations were experienced in all trades. The ironmasters were now suffering from a diminished demand. The Yorkshire clothiers were suffering from the high prices of wool, by which the farmers benefited. Agricultural distress was a chronic malady, not arising from legislation, or to be cured by a legislative remedy, and least of all by the contrivances suggested by Mr Disraeli. Returns showed that the contribution paid from the land to the poor rate had diminished by one-half since 1833. The farmers were suffering from the effects of a vicious system, and for their relief he suggested improved business arrangements, more skillful husbandry, adju-ted rents, and abolished game laws.

Mr Reynolds, intending to support the amendment, cited its terms and found therein nothing in which he could not agree. Its intent was not to restore protection, but to secure for the agriculturists a share in the booty offered in the Treasury surplus.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer contended that Mr Disraeli had violated all consistency, by consenting to support a proposition, and yet moving an amendment which utterly defeated it. He pointed out the relief to the agriculturists contained in the financial scheme of the Government, and remarked that the reductions offered upon lunatic asylums would not have been withdrawn if the party it was intended to benefit had shown any sense of its value. He dared the complainants of distress among the labourers to deny that the condition of the peasantry throughout England was better than ever before. Wages had nowhere fallen one-half, but prices had. Regretting the baneful activity of rural demagogues, he unhesitatingly trusted the question to the good sense of the country.

Mr Miles supported the amendment, as did Mr Newdegate, amidst much impatience for a division.

Sir R. Peel, identifying himself with the agricultural interest, although a free trader, intended to vote for Mr Disraeli's proposition.

Lord Norreys would oppose it.

After a few words from Sir W. Jolliffe, and an explanation from Sir C. Wood, Colonel Sibthorp declared that he supported the amendment from a sense of duty.

Lord J. Russell declared that the motions so often proposed to them upon agricultural distress were based upon a delusion. It was assumed that the owners and occupiers of land did not share in the relief afforded by remission of taxation upon articles of consumption. He contended, on the contrary, that the true interests of that class were identified with the general prosperity. These resolutions were offered under false pretences. Before the house the idea of protection was denied, but to their constituents the promise was held out that the result was to be attained indirectly. Such a tortuous proceeding was unworthy the leaders of a great party.

Mr M. O'Connell passed some strictures upon the speech of Mr Reynolds, to which Mr Keogh replied.

Sir T. D. Acland disclaimed any party motive for the vote he designed to give in favour of the amendment.

Mr J. O'Connell commented upon the speech of Mr Keogh.

Mr Grattan supported the amendment.

The house divided—for the amendment, 250; against it, 263; majority for ministers, 13.

The house rose at a quarter past 2.

Monday, April 14.

Mr E. Ellice, the chairman of the St Alban's Election Committee, in reporting that Mr Jacob Bell, the sitting member for that borough, had been duly elected,

reported further the opinion of the committee that gross corruption had prevailed at the last election, and on former occasions, and suggested the appointment of a legislative commission into the corrupt practices alleged to be customary in the borough of St Alban's. The hon. member gave notice that he should move for leave to bring in a bill for the appointment of commissioners for that purpose.

Upon the order of the day for resuming the adjourned debate on consideration of the minutes of proceedings of the St Alban's Election Committee.

Mr Aglionby, who had moved the discharge of Henry Edwards from custody without payment of fees, amended his motion by including therein a proposition to discharge the warrants issued against Waggett, Hayward, Skegge, and Birchmore, whose persons had not been taken.

Mr Bankes and Mr Roundell Palmer objected to the discharge of Edwards, until he had been brought to the bar.

The Solicitor-General had no doubt the man had been formally committed, so that his committal could not be questioned in a court of law; but the house might look behind the order, and it might then appear that it had been hasty in adopting the report of the committee. Under these circumstances, he suggested whether the house would not do well to discharge Edwards on payment of his fees.

Sir F. Theiger, who reminded the house that the conduct imputed to Edwards had defeated justice, dissented from the suggestion of the Solicitor-General, having no doubt as to the legality of the committee's proceedings.

Sir G. Grey observed that Edwards had made no application for his discharge; and unless he made submission to the house, or established at the bar the qualified denial contained in his petition, he thought he should be sent to Newgate as a punishment.

The Master of the Rolls assigned reasons why, in his opinion, the motion of Mr Aglionby ought not to be acceded to, and suggested that the debate should be adjourned until Tuesday, to afford Edwards an opportunity of presenting a petition to the house.

Lord J. Russell concurred in this suggestion, and moved by way of amendment that the debate be adjourned until Tuesday.

Sir J. Graham said, if this person had been committed for contempt, he had done nothing to purge his contempt, and he should be committed at once to Newgate.

Mr Aglionby protested against committing a man to Newgate without hearing him. In his petition he had disclaimed any intentional contempt, and desired to be heard.

The Attorney-General assented to this observation, and urged the house to adopt the motion of Lord John Russell for an adjournment of the debate.

This motion, after some further discussion, was carried upon a division by 108 to 87.

The house then went into committee upon the Assessed Taxes Act, where Sir H. Willoughby moved to exclude from the resolution for imposing a house tax the words "and gardens;" but upon the assurance of the Chancellor of the Exchequer that he intended to alter the bill in this respect so far as it would effect market gardeners, and to limit the operation of the bill upon gardens appurtenant to houses to gardens and pleasure grounds not exceeding one acre in extent, he withdrew his motion.

Other propositions for modifying the tax were reserved until the committee on the bill.

The resolutions were agreed to, and the house then went into committee upon the Timber and Coffee Duties Acts, when

The Chancellor of the Exchequer repeated his reasons for equalising the duty on colonial and foreign coffee, the imports of colonial coffee exceeding the demand for home consumption by 5,000,000 lbs, which showed that the colonial coffee producers would not be injured by the removal of the differential duty. He proposed to impose an equal duty of 3d per lb upon colonial and foreign coffee, without the 5 per cent.

The subject of the discriminating duties, and that of the Treasury minute sanctioning the adulteration of coffee with chicory, underwent a good deal of discussion.

The resolutions were agreed to.

On the motion for going into committee of supply.

Sir De Lacy Evans called the attention of the house to the interior decoration of the new House of Commons, which, he said, had been persisted in by the architect in opposition to the declared wishes of the members of the house that the fittings up should be of a plain character, until stopped by the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Mr T. Greene had been aware of the desire expressed in the house that the new chamber should be unadorned, and he thought Mr Barry fully understood this. He had, however, not done so; but it was not thought expedient to incur the expense of scraping the decorations off again.

Sir D. Norreys defended Mr Barry, as did Colonel Rawdon, who read Mr Barry's reply to the charge of acting against the expressed wishes of the house, which, he said, had not been communicated to him in an authoritative manner, and Colonel Rawdon complained of the terms of the notice given by Sir De Lacy Evans, as conveying an imputation upon the architect's professional character.

The discussion was continued for some time, after which the house went into committee of supply upon the Army Estimates of the non-effective services.

All the votes were agreed to.

The Expenses of Prosecutions Bill was read a third time and passed.

The Stamp Duties Assimilation Bill, and the Exchequer-bills Bill, passed through committee.

The Sale of Arsenic Regulation Bill was read a second time.

The other business having been gone through, the house adjourned at one o'clock.

*Tuesday, April 15.*

New writs were moved for Boston and Cork, in consequence of the death of Captain Pelham and the resignation of Mr Fagan.

Lord John Russell announced the following as the course of public business after the Easter holidays:—The Income Tax Bill, on Monday, the 28th April; the Jews Bill, on Thursday, the 1st May, and the Navy Estimates the same day; the committee on the Income Tax, on Friday, the 2nd May; and the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill, on Monday, the 5th May.

It was agreed that the house at its rising should adjourn till Monday, the 28th inst.

A great number of notices of motion were given, among which were a notice of motion on the 8th of May, by Mr Cayley, for the repeal of the malt tax; and one, for the same date, by Mr Baillie, on the affairs of Ceylon. Mr Hume also gave notice of a motion on parliamentary reform for the 13th May.

The consideration of the petition of Edwards, committed by the St Alban's election committee for keeping out of the way witnesses who, it was alleged, could prove improper conduct on the part of the agents of Mr Jacob Bell, was then gone into, and the result was that Edwards was committed to Newgate.

Mr Adderley then moved an address to her Majesty, praying the appointment of one or more commissioners, with instructions to proceed to South Africa, to inquire and report as to the best mode of adjusting the relations

between this country and the Kafir tribes; and also of determining the engagements entered into by her Majesty's High Commissioner in his settlement of the extended territory. He observed that, for the last two years, there had been no regular government at the Cape of Good Hope, and that the Governor there had exerted an entirely despotic power. Our attempt at the administration of the colony had utterly failed. He entered into an examination of the conduct of Sir Harry Smith, glancing at the recent rebellion, and the undignified escape of Sir Harry from the rebels, describing him as just as much a prisoner as ever, with the important difference that he was now shut up with 5,000 men. Describing this Kafir war as different from any previous one, inasmuch as it was a war, not for plunder, but for the recovery of territory, he said that the fault of our method of dealing with the Kafir tribes was that it was neither the coercive policy which should restrain them, nor the civilising policy which should conciliate them, but an unfortunate mixture of the two systems. It was difficult to say which system should be adopted, but there could be no doubt that a policy partaking of both must fail, and there could also be no doubt that such mingled policy was at present that of Earl Grey. In advocating his proposal, he said that he strenuously opposed that of Lord John Russell, on account of the delay it would cause, adding that, though Sir W. Molesworth's plan was very simple, it would occasion injustice towards many individuals whose interests were bound up with our present system. He concluded by moving the above-mentioned address.

Lord John Russell referred to the various important periods in the history of the Cape colony to show that the policy we had adopted towards the Kafirs had been the necessary result of the principle of self-preservation. Paying a tribute to the military and general talents of Sir Harry Smith, his lordship said that he, like his predecessors, had been sedulously endeavouring to find a remedy against the mischievous incursions of the frontier tribes. The misplaced boundary of the colony had been one great reason why these incursions had been often too successful; but the Dutch, the original proprietors, had established an organised system of defence, which, however, had been too indiscriminate in its severity against the natives. This system had been disallowed by the government of Lord Stanley, but on that occasion the colonists had urged that if that system were to be abolished they should be permitted to frame another, or else that the Imperial Government should itself defend them from savage incursion. He referred to the sanguinary incidents of the administration of Sir B. d'Urban as a proof that what had recently taken place was neither novel, nor could be legitimately brought forward as a charge against the Government, and added that Sir B. d'Urban had advised the extension of the frontier. He traced the steps which had been taken in regard to an abandonment of the new frontier, and to treaties with the native chiefs, under the administration of Lord Glenelg, and adverted to the troubles which had been the almost continuous consequence, alluding to the vigorous measures which Sir Peregrine Maitland had found it necessary to adopt. Sir H. Pottinger had pursued the same policy, but, like Sir H. Smith, he had endeavoured to govern the Kafirs through their chiefs. He followed up the argument that Sir H. Smith had only trodden in the steps of his predecessors: he commented upon the different alternations of policy which had been suggested to Government; and defended the course which had been adopted as that which offered the greatest possibility of security combined with humanity. But the circumstances which had occurred fully justified his intended recommendation that a committee be appointed to inquire into the question. He conceived that there were numerous persons in England qualified to give the necessary information. The committee might suggest a commission to the colony, as proposed by Mr Adderley, but he thought it would be premature to propose such a commission in the present stage. He therefore moved, as an amendment to Mr Adderley's motion, that a select committee be appointed to inquire into the relations between this country and the Kafir and other tribes on our South African frontier.

Mr Vernon Smith objected to both motions, conceiving the subject to be entirely one for the consideration of the Executive Government. And he did not see what witnesses could be called before a committee, except officials who had already, by their acts and despatches, expressed their opinion on the question of the government of the colony. At the same time he contended that our system must be changed, for we had made no progress whatever in civilising or conciliating the natives. He thought also that the colony itself had done nothing to entitle it to encouragement from the Home Government. He advocated the restriction of the power of the governor of the colony in regard to military enterprise.

Mr F. Scott would support Lord John Russell's amendment. He condemned the "Bombastes Furioso policy" of Sir H. Smith, and said he considered Lord John Russell's amendment as amounting to a censure upon the colonial policy we had hitherto pursued.

Mr Mackinnon defended Sir H. Smith, and dwelt upon the difficulties of his position between barbarism and civilisation.

Mr Gladstone said that such difficulties were great, no doubt, but might be successfully dealt with. He proceeded to state that one of his objections to the appointment of a committee upon such a subject as this was, that it removed responsibility from the shoulders of the Executive, upon which it ought to rest. Besides this objection, which in the present instance had great weight, there was that of the delay which would be caused by referring the matter to a committee, by which means it would be kept in suspense for a couple of years, only to be the subject of debate at last. Experience did not testify in favour of select committees as a machinery for bringing colonies into a desirable condition, and he should regard such a step in the present case as a step in the wrong direction. Such questions as those which recent events had raised should be discussed in the localities in which they had originated. The most scandalous corruption prevailed in the management of the Cape war, which was a fruitful source of demoralisation; and the responsibility of such wars should lie with the parties interested in them. Appeals might be made, on the ground of humanity, against the proposed policy; but he had yet to learn that the colonists were not perfectly well able to defend themselves. If they should prove to be unable, this country would gladly help them. The only rational plan for making a colony vigorous and self-relying was the founding it in freedom, and the giving its government into its own hands. He thought the bribe of a military expenditure a miserable resource upon which to rely for securing the attachment of colonists, and for preventing the apprehended dismemberment of the empire.

Lord Mandeville would support Lord J. Russell's amendment, thinking inquiry might be advantageous.

Colonel Thompson expressed his opinion that we had ill-treated the African semi-barbarians.

Sir E. N. Buxton objected to the withdrawal of Imperial interference from the colony, as the result would be that the Kafirs would be "eaten up." He regretted that Lord Glenelg's policy of justice and conciliation had not been adhered to, and believed that, by leaving the Boers to deal with the natives, expense would not be lightened, and cruelty would be greatly increased.

Mr Roebuck derided the arguments of the last speaker, and declared unhesitatingly, that wherever the Anglo-Saxon came, an inferior man must and ought to vanish from before him, for that he came to plant a nation of a higher intelligence. But it was nonsense to talk about "justice" (as it was understood

by civilised men) in connection with such a matter. He went on to say that the Cape colony had nothing to do with British Kaffraria, except that the Governor of the former happened to be the chief commissioner of the latter, and therefore the question of colonial government was not to the present purpose. He advised English people not to be deluded by any idea of amalgamating two breeds which could never mix, but he wished that the Anglo-Saxon settler should, as in America and elsewhere, be allowed to deal with the aboriginal savage. He reproached the Government with an inclination to abrogate its own policy, and to violate the principle that the Executive, and not the house, was to govern the empire.

Mr Labouchere, in reply to Mr Gladstone and Mr Roebuck, reminded the house that the course now proposed by Government was no new one, and he referred to instances in Mr Huskisson's time, and since, in which the assistance of committees had been asked in considering colonial interests. He went on to say that there was a sacred duty imposed upon Parliament and the Government, wherever two races came into collision, to restrain the passions of both, and to do their best for preventing the colonial possession in question from being plunged into blood and strife. Government did not shrink from doing its duty to the colonies, which it was at this very time endeavouring to discharge, nor could it wish for this committee be fairly construed into a desire to get quit of any of its responsibility.

Mr Hume said that the speech of Mr Labouchere was at direct variance with candour, because the very precedence upon which he had relied had occurred in times when a colonial policy was practised which Government now affected to set aside, in favour of the system of colonial self-government. He demanded why the deputy sent over by the Cape had been allowed to remain four months in England without his being able to get a hearing from the Government on the subject of the constitution for the colony? He hoped that the house would not agree to the appointment of a committee, simply for the sake of shelving the subject, and he expressed his conviction that the proposed commission would be advantageous.

Mr Jacob Bell (his maiden speech) protested against Mr Roebuck's argument, which, he said, violated all the principles of Christianity. If superior civilisation were to be the perpetual justification of violence, who was to decide where really superior civilisation lay? He could not assent to a policy of blood, especially as he understood that the savages were willing to sell their lands for a very moderate price.

Mr Sidney Herbert, in reply to Mr Labouchere, denied the appositeness of any of the instances cited by that gentleman of appointments of committees on colonial matters; nor did he think that any of the committees appointed by Government had afforded much hope of a real solution of the difficulties submitted. And he did not consider this a case in which a committee was called for. A war was actually raging, and the executive at the Cape ought to be left unshackled in its action, unless that action was to be directed by the plainest and most unmistakable instructions from home. A committee could not know what would be actually going on, and might lead to serious impediments to the public service. He thought Mr Adderley's proposition less objectionable than Lord John Russell's, but he should vote against both.

Mr Booker thought that ministers had upon this occasion shown becoming vigour and manliness, and declared that they should have his vote.

Mr Hawes, in reply to Mr S. Herbert, denied that any injury could be done to the Cape colony by the appointment of the committee. Dwelling upon the advantage of such an investigation as was proposed, he said that its results would be to show that our policy at the Cape had neither been one of weakness nor of extermination. He declared that, thanks to Sir H. Smith, civilisation was progressing in our African possessions, while due protection was being afforded to the aboriginal inhabitants. And he asked the house to give permission to the Government to prove this before the committee.

Mr Adderley briefly replied.

The house divided, and the numbers were—for Mr Adderley's motion, 59 against it, 129; majority against it, 70.

Lord J. Russell's amendment having thus become the substantive motion, the house divided again, and the numbers were—for Lord J. Russell's amendment, 128; against it, 60; majority for the select committee, 68.

### PARLIAMENTARY PAPERS.

- 63 Local Acts—reports of the Admiralty.
- 141 Highland Roads and Bridges—37th report.
- 152 Loan Societies—abstract of accounts.
- 170 Children in Workhouses—abstract of return.
- 175 Benjamin Eaton and William Hart—return.
- 178 Bills—Charitable Institutions Notices.
- 179 — Landlord and Tenant.
- 176 — Expenses of Prosecutions (amended).
- 180 — Audit of Railway Accounts (No. 2).
- 185 — Oath of Abjuration (Jews).
- Public Records—twelfth report of the Deputy Keeper.
- 162 Lighthouses (Colonies)—return.
- 165 Duchy of Cornwall—account of income and expenditure.
- 156 Bills—Crown Estate Paving.
- 182 — Farm Buildings.
- Turnpike Trusts (Scotland)—abstract of the general statements of the income and expenditure.
- 120 County Treasurers, &c.—abstract of return.
- 161 Pilotage—account.
- 166 Duchy of Lancaster—account.
- 174 Brewers, Victuallers, &c.—account.
- 189 Expiring Laws—report.
- 188 Bill—Sale of Arsenic Regulation.
- 165 St Helena—return.
- 167 Church Preferments—further return.
- 171 Customs Duties, &c. (Ireland)—accounts.
- 173 Malt; Hops—accounts.
- 181 Committee of Selection—fifth report.
- 183 Ecclesiastical Commission (Ireland)—report.
- 193 St Alban's Election—minutes of evidence.
- 191 Bills—Stamp Duties Assimilation.
- 192 — Property Tax.
- Canada (Civil List and Military Expenditure, &c.)—correspondence.

### News of the Week.

#### COURT AND ARISTOCRACY.

HER MAJESTY and the Royal Family are now staying at Windsor, for which place they left town on Wednesday.

The Queen held a Court and Privy Council on Monday afternoon, at Buckingham Palace.

On Monday and Tuesday in this week the customary bounties were issued to the aged and meritorious poor at the Almonry in Whitehall, under the direction of the Lord-High Almoner and the Sub-Almoner. The recipients included numerous cases of blindness and other infirmities.

### METROPOLIS.

**THE FRIMLEY MURDERERS.**—On Tuesday, the two men who were convicted at the last assizes at Kingston of being connected with the burglary at Frimley parsonage, and the murder of the Rev. George Hollest, its occupant, suffered death in front of Horsemonger-Jane gaol. There were between 7,000 and 8,000 persons present. They both confessed that the approver, Smith, had told the truth and that he was not the actual murderer. As illustrating the ineffectiveness of executions as deterrants from crime we may mention that Mary Anne Kafe, a well dressed woman, was charged with stealing a purse whilst opposite the gallows.

**THE HAHNEMANN HOSPITAL.**—The first annual meeting of the Hahnemann Hospital affords materials for the formation of an opinion as to the state and prospects of Homœopathic science in this country. The hospital has now been five months in actual operation. The patients, out and in, have been 1,569 persons; of whom 611 have been discharged, 387 cured, and 224 improved; while 40 are reported as unaltered, 543 as under treatment, 252 result unknown, and 19 as dead. Initiatory steps towards the establishment of a Medical School have been taken, by the delivery of Clinical Lectures, and preparation for other courses. The members of the Medical Council and others afford a proof of their confidence in the principles of their science by the zeal with which they apply themselves to these labours; which, in the infancy of the institution and of the science, must necessarily be gratuitous. Under these circumstances, no candid mind can refuse to Homœopathy a fair trial. Without directly defying competition, the professors of this school claim to be tried by a dispassionate tribunal, which, of course, every individual anxious only for the triumph of truth and for the public benefit will be eager to grant them. The state of the treasurer's account is encouraging. The actual receipts are double the expenditure, and a still larger amount of money is promised. It remains, however, to be seen, how many of the donations in 1850-1 will be repeated in the ensuing year. In one instance, the munificent donation of 500*l.* has been made,—an example which, if duly followed by the wealthy converts to Homœopathy, will form the germ of a Building and Endowment Fund, and enable the projectors completely to carry out their design of combining an efficient hospital with a medical training school.—*Patriot.*

**THE NEW BUILDING ACT.**—At the weekly meeting of the Marylebone vestry, on Saturday, it was determined to agitate against the new Building Act. It was stated that under the present Act the fines and penalties inflicted last year amounted to 36,600*l.*, which would be increased to 60,000*l.*, if the proposed Act became a law.

**HEALTH OF LONDON DURING THE WEEK.**—The official report says:—In the week ending last Saturday the deaths registered in London were 1,042. This exhibits an increase of 41 on the corrected average. The births of 779 boys, and 757 girls, in all 1,536 children were registered in the week. In the six corresponding weeks of 1845-50, the average number was 1,325. At the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, the mean height of the barometer was 29.838. The mean temperature of the week was 40.3 deg. The wind was generally north or north-east.

### PROVINCES.

**AYLESBURY ELECTION.**—At the close of the poll the numbers were, Beth ell, 514, Ferrand, 518; thus showing a final majority of 26 in favour of Mr Bethell over Mr Ferrand. This majority, it may be remarked, was obtained exclusively in the town of Aylesbury, where Mr Bethell polled 227 votes, while his opponent obtained in the same district only 121.

**REPRESENTATION OF OXFORDSHIRE.**—The tenant-farmers of Oxfordshire are, we hear, bent upon returning one of their own body at the next election. They are taking steps to secure the election of Mr. Joseph Roberts, of Waterperry, near Oxford. It is proposed to do this by subscription. It is stated that there are three hundred freeholders willing to subscribe 410 each towards the return of Mr. Roberts, who is a strong protectionist.

**THE REPRESENTATION OF PLYMOUTH.**—It seems to be determined by all shades of liberals that Lord Ebrington and Mr. R. P. Collier, the barrister, shall be the representatives of the borough. It was expected that Mr. Wigram Crawford would have sought the suffrages of the liberal electors, in conjunction with Lord Ebrington, but it is now understood that he will offer himself for some other borough.

**BOSTON ELECTION.**—A crowded public meeting of the friends of Mr. D. Wire, the radical candidate, was held at the London Tavern, Boston, on Monday evening. Two protectionist candidates are spoken of, viz., Mr. Freshfield, solicitor to the Bank of England, and Mr. Busfield Ferrand.

**ROBBERY AT WALTHAM ABBEY.**—A great deal of excitement has been occasioned in this neighbourhood during the past week, owing to its having become known that a daring burglary, involving the loss of cash amounting in round numbers to nearly 500*l.*, had been committed at the Storekeeper's office of the Royal Gunpowder Works, situate near Waltham.

**REFORM IN MANCHESTER.**—A meeting, seldom equalled for numbers, or enthusiasm, was held at the Free Trade Hall, Manchester, on Wednesday night, at which the speakers were Mr. John Bright, and the Right Hon. Thomas Milner Gibson. The meeting had been summoned by the council of the Financial and Parliamentary Reform Association, but it was practically an occasion for listening to explanations as to the policy of the Manchester party. A vote of confidence in Messrs. Bright and Gibson was carried almost unanimously.

### SCOTLAND.

**LEITH ELECTION.**—On Monday the election to supply the vacancy in the representation of the Leith burghs, occasioned by the elevation of the late Lord Advocate (Mr. Rutherford) to the bench, took place at Leith. The new Lord Advocate (Mr. Moncrieff) was returned without opposition.

MR. JOHN COWAN has been appointed her Majesty's Solicitor-General for Scotland, in the room of Mr. Moncrieff, promoted to the office of Lord Advocate.—*Globe.*

### IRELAND.

**ENKISKILLEN ELECTION.**—The creditable attempt of the "old Enniskilleners" to assert, "for once in two centuries," the right to choose their representative, irrespective of family influences, has for the present been defeated, and Mr. Whiteside has been declared the winner by a majority of 17. The gross numbers polled were as follow:—Whiteside, 85; Collum, 68.

**REPRESENTATION OF CORK CITY.**—Mr. William Fagan has at length bid a formal farewell to his constituents. Mr. Serjeant Murphy is in the field, and avows himself no longer a protectionist, or, at most, but an extremely modified one. He is favourable to an equitable adjustment of the land question, while upon "Papal aggression" he is ready to join hand and heart with the Irish Parliamentary brigade. *The Cork Examiner* states that Mr. Butt, Q.C., is likely to contest the representation in the conservative interest, but from the tone of the last Cork Journals it is to be inferred that there will be no real opposition to the return of Mr. Serjeant Murphy.

**LONGFORD ELECTION.**—The statement of a Dublin morning paper to the effect that Mr. More O'Ferral was returned on Monday without opposition was somewhat premature, for, greedily to the chagrin of the "Club" and the "clergy," an opponent was started at the eleventh hour in the person of Mr. Wilson Sleator, High Sheriff of the county of Cavan, who has chivalrously taken the field in sustenance of Protectionist principles. The result of the poll is not yet known.

**CONVENT MYSTERIES.**—There is every reason to believe that all the circumstances in connexion with the nunnery affair in the diocese of Tuam, referred to some time since in *The Times*, will form the subject of legal inquiry during the approaching Easter Term.

**THE IRISH FLOUR MILLERS.**—Some of the more extensive millowners are now engaged in fitting up French machinery for the dressing and preparation of flour. At one large mill, in the county of Kildare, flour is now manufactured on the French system, and the example will be soon followed in many others. It appears that the expense of altering the machinery on the French system is inconsiderable—not more than 80%; and the flour produced is much finer in quality, the coarser matter being effectually excluded.

## FOREIGN AND COLONIAL.

### SPAIN.

Accounts from Madrid are of the 11th instant. The Moderate party was extremely divided, and all its endeavours to form an Electoral Central Committee had hitherto failed.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs and the Under-Secretaries of State of the departments of the Interior and Justice had not yet been appointed.

The Political Chief of Madrid had authorised the Progresistas to hold meetings, preparatory to the elections.

### PORTUGAL.

Dates from Lisbon are to the 10th. A second civil war had broken out in Portugal against the Count de Thomar and the Duke of Saldanha, who had placed himself at the head of the movement. The other chiefs of the Oporto Junta party were ready to join.

The British fleet was detained in the Tagus by the Queen's request. It was understood the Count das Antas and other chiefs of the Oporto Junta party were ready to join the Duke, and that expresses had been sent to their partisans to arm themselves. The King had gone with the Duke of Terceira and 1,200 men by steamers and lighters to occupy Santarem, but Saldanha was expected to get hold of the place before they could arrive.

### AUSTRIA.

Advices from Vienna, of the 12th inst., state that Count Thun is preparing to return to Frankfort to dissolve the Provisional Federal Board and to open the Diet.

The Austrian Government will publish a memorial of its views on the reorganisation of the Confederation.

Letters of the 13th say that Prince Schwarzenberg is not prepared to sanction the continuance of the Dresden Conferences.

The financial statement for 1850 has been published. It shows a deficiency of 77,161,625fl.

The Emperor has granted an amnesty to 17 political convicts. The Hanoverian correspondent of the *Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung* asserts, in very positive terms, that Lord Cowley and the Marquis Tallenty have received instructions from their respective governments to leave Frankfort the moment the question of the incorporation of the Austrian provinces in the Bund may be mooted at the Diet.

### PRUSSIA.

It is stated that the various agents of the Prussian League will join the Frankfort Diet on the 10th of May.

The Prussian Government is preparing a memorial setting forth its plan of action in the Federal Diet at Frankfort.

The ministerial paper states that besides England and France, Russia, too, has remonstrated, if not protested, against the Austrian annexation scheme.

Russia has likewise desired that all the German States should accede to the Frankfort Diet.

The Austrian answer to Prussia's last note, says the *Cologne Gazette*, does not directly reject the Prussian proposition, and makes the return to the old Diet the subject of some preliminary discussion. The note is said to be most friendly. It contains the proposal that the Diet should be held in future in Vienna, whereupon Prussia has suggested that it should be held at Vienna and Berlin alternately.

### TURKEY.

Omer Pasha has routed an army of 3,000 insurgents at Kossovo. He has sent a detachment of his troops against Petrovac and Bihacz. Omer Pasha has imposed large fines on the insurgent cities of Banjaluka and Gradiska. All the artillery of the insurgents was captured by the Turks at Jaiza.

The Turkish General, having divided his forces into two columns, is preparing to occupy Banjaluka and the Bekia, and to pursue the insurgents in Turkish Croatia. In that province the rebel chief Ali Redir is endeavouring to recruit his forces.

M. Mussurus, a late Ambassador at Vienna, has been appointed to the Embassy at London.

It is positively stated that the Russians will evacuate the Danubian principalities on the 27th instant.

### AMERICA.

Advices from New York are to April 2. Mr Secretary Webster had been entertained with public honours by the legislators of Pennsylvania, and on the occasion delivered a great constitutional and Union speech.

Generals Scott and Cass had been nominated for the Presidency. Letters in the New York journals announce that the United States Cabinet had arranged a new postal plan with Canada.

Resolutions had been passed by the Ohio Legislature for a modification of the Fugitive Slave Law.

Great satisfaction is expressed in the free-trade organs that the Secretary of the Treasury has resolved not to include freight in the valuation of foreign imports.

Large numbers of passengers to the Crystal Palace were about to leave New York.

Fifteen lives had been lost by a collision of steam-boats on the Ohio.

### CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

The Propontis has brought advices from the Cape to the 7th of March, Sierra Leone the 24th of March, and Cape de Verde on the 31st.

Although she brings intelligence of a successful attack made by Major-General Somerset at the head of 1,200 troops, and of the capture of a large number of Kafirs, yet the general tenor of the information derived from her passengers is averse to any expectation of a speedy termination of the war; and the skill and caution of the Kafirs, coupled with their natural cunning, appear in many recent instances to have baffled the efforts of the regular forces.

Sir Harry Smith was at King William's Town, and has, in all, about 2,000 troops under his immediate command. There are only seven artillerymen at Cape Town.

Major Somerset's attack was at Fort Armstrong, on the Kat River settlement, whence, with the aid of the burgher forces, the enemy was ejected with great slaughter.

The colonists at Cape Town call the war a Government and not a Colonial war, and not one meeting of the inhabitants has as yet taken place; neither has any other public demonstration been made in approval of the movements of Sir Harry Smith.

### INDIA.

Advices by the Overland Mail state that the tranquillity of India remains undisturbed.

A skirmish had taken place at Burrow, in the mountains near Kohat, between some robber hordes and a Punjaub regiment, in which the former were defeated and driven back.

A conspiracy has been discovered in Nepal, the object of which was to murder General Jung Bahadour. The conspirators were his own father and brother. The general is a favourite of the army, whom the conspirators endeavoured to gain over.

Lord Grosvenor, the Hon. Leveson Gower, and Mr Egerton had been received on a visit by the King of Oude.

The market for manufactured goods had not rallied, although within the last fortnight some heavy sales had taken place.

Exchange had fallen, but prices rose in proportion. Stock on hand considerable, and more was expected.

Raw cotton had declined since last quotations. The decline in price received by the last English mail of the 7th of February caused a corresponding decline of seven rupees per candy. The new crop is good and clear.

Mr Mackay, the cotton commissioner, has commenced his labours; he has just gone to Surat. On the 12th of March he was to have left Surat for Broach, in prosecution of the object of his mission.

### BIRTHS.

On the 10th inst., at Monaltire house, Aberdeenshire, the Lady Cochrane, of a son and heir.

On the 11th inst., at Winchester, the lady of Lieutenant-Colonel A. Onslow, Scots Fusilier Guards, of a son.

On the 15th inst., at Roebuck hall, near Dublin, the wife of Charles S. Grey, Esq., of a son.

### MARRIAGES.

On the 12th inst., at St Martin's-in-the-fields, by the Rev. C. Mollneux, Henry Ayrmitage, Esq., Coldstream Guards, to Fenella Fitzharding, second daughter of Admiral the Honourable M. F. Berkeley, C.B., M.P., one of the Lords of the Admiralty.

On the 10th inst., at St Heller's, Jersey, by special license, by the Rev. G. B. Wildig, rector of Norton-in-the-Moors, Staffordshire, Stappiton Robinson, Esq., Captain, Royal Regiment of Artillery, to Emma Amelia, sixth daughter of the late Thomas Gibson Brewer, Esq., barrister-at-law.

### DEATHS.

On the 14th inst., at the Vines, Rochester, Lieutenant-Colonel Bingham, late of the Coldstream Guards, aged 73.

On the 17th inst., at Camberwell, John Symson Jewsope, Esq., barrister-at-law, magistrate of the counties of Middlesex, Essex, and Hertfordshire, and Deputy-Lieutenant of the county of Essex, in his 72nd year.

March 16, at Newton Rectory, near Wisbeach, after a short illness, in the 32nd year of his age, deeply lamented, the Rev. George Whitford, formerly Fellow of Jesus College, Cambridge, and B.A., St John's, 1821.

## COMMERCIAL AND MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

At the annual meeting of the Grand Surrey Canal Company held this week a dividend of 2% per share was declared. It was stated in the report that the progress of affairs was satisfactory, and that the number of wood laden vessels which had entered the dock was 38 in excess of the preceding year.

Letters from Italy state, that on the 6th of April a treaty of navigation had been signed between Sardinia and Holland.

Negotiations are about to be commenced at the Hague for the conclusion of a treaty of commerce between Holland and Belgium.

Silk growing in the Mauritius is likely to prove successful. Several leading colonists had planted a number of acres of the mulberry trees. The cocoons are reported to be of a very beautiful colour, and the silk richer in quality than the ordinary kind. The finest were pure white, from successive crossings of the colony with those sent from China.

A valuable comparative statement of the quarter's traffic appears in the *Railway Times*. Altogether the returns may be considered highly satisfactory, as the increase in the aggregate receipts is of a solid and permanent description. The strike amongst the Sailors of Poole, which has continued for the last three weeks, has now closed by the arrival of sailors from other ports.

The committee of shipowners of the port of Sunderland have memorialised the Board of Trade to impose some greater restriction than at present exists on the Great Northern Railway, in the conveyance of coal to the London markets, which, if permitted to continue, will have a serious effect upon the shipping interest of the coal trade, and destroy that nursery for British seamen which was to be found in the colliers. The Commissioners of the Board of Trade have expressed their inability to interfere.

The office of Vice-Chancellor of the county Palatine of Lancaster, vacant by the promotion of Mr Page Wood, will, we have reason to believe, be conferred on Mr Headlam of the Chancery bar.—*Globe*.

We regret exceedingly to hear that it is in contemplation to reduce the naval forces in the Mediterranean from five sail of the line to four sail of the line. Her Majesty's ship *Caledonia*, 120, is ordered to England to be paid off.—*Standard*.

A park of seventy acres in extent, with a considerable frontage to the River Dee, is about to be opened in the city of Chester by a private individual.

A monster steamer is being built in this city by Messrs Paterson and Mercer, for the West India Packet Company, and is eight feet longer than the *Great Britain*. She is to be called the *Demerara*, and is being built in the same dock used for the *Great Britain*.—*Bristol Mirror*.

A census of cattle is ordered in each commune throughout France, simultaneously with the quinquennial census of the population, which falls this year.

Miss Talbot is about to be married to Lord Edward Fitzalan Howard, M.P. for Horsham, second son of the Duke of Norfolk, Hereditary Earl Marshal, and Premier Peer of England. His lordship holds the office of Vice-Chamberlain to the Queen, and is in his 34th year. It, perhaps, need scarcely be added that Lord Edward is a Roman Catholic.

A frightful catastrophe was made known this week at Lloyd's—the destruction of one of the largest Indiamen, called the *Buckinghamshire*, by fire, while on her homeward voyage. She was a splendid-looking ship, nearly 2,000 tons burthen, with high poop decks. The accident occurred just as they were leaving Bengal. Several were drowned. It is as yet impossible to say how the ship caught fire. By many it is supposed she was wilfully set on fire by some of the *Lascars*, but no evidence has been adduced to confirm this report. She was laden with a most valuable cargo, consisting of East India produce. The total loss is calculated to exceed 120,000*l*.

## MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

(The following was accidentally omitted last week.)

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.—On Tuesday Auber's admired opera *Masaniello* was performed for the first time this season; the only change of importance in the cast being the substitution of Formes for Massol in the part of *Pietro*. This change was a decided improvement. In Massol's acting there was little to betoken the conspirator; and though his singing was pleasing, it lacked the appropriate energy. So powerful, however, was the impersonation of Formes, that he almost made *Pietro* the leading character of the piece; and whilst on the stage was always the centre of interest. His singing in the celebrated duet in the second act produced a thrill of sympathetic excitement not often equalled. Indeed, the more we see of Formes the more we are inclined to think, that as a representative of the sterner passions, he is without a rival on the operatic stage. The *Masaniello* of Signor Tamberlik was on the whole satisfactory. He looks the part to perfection, and his acting is easy and intelligent. His singing, however, is, in our opinion, quite spoilt by the perpetual *vibrato* in which he indulges. Tremulousness of voice is the natural language of certain of the gentler feelings and in singing may be introduced sparingly in the more pathetic passages with great effect; but when constantly used it loses all meaning and becomes tiresome. Did Signor Tamberlik reserve the *vibrato* for occasions on which it is needful to express the climax of emotion, he would not only do this more vividly, but would be able at other times to bring out the beauties of his fine voice much better than he can now do. The performance of the other characters does not call for special remark. The chorus was as efficient as ever: we almost think more efficient. It was encored in the prayer.

## Literature.

THE CREED OF CHRISTENDOM; its Foundations and Superstructure. By WILLIAM RATHBONE GREG. John Chapman, Strand.

FROM the title of this work, the reader will not necessarily infer that it is an acute, learned, critical examination of the whole subject of revealed religion, with many of its bearings on morality and worldly happiness; for it might have been a history and an eulogium on the origin, progress, and present state of Christianity, and a mere description of the dogmas that mark and divide its almost innumerable sects. The author, with a well-trained mind, bringing great stores of literature and science to support criticism, treats of such topics as the "Inspiration of the Scriptures," of "the Authorship and Authority of the Old Testament," of the "Theism of the Jews," of "the Origin of the Gospel," and the "Fidelity of Gospel History," of "Miracles," of the "Resurrection," whether "Christianity be a revealed religion," of "Christian Eclecticism," and the "Great Enigma." All these and other similar points are examined with great care, and the conclusions very distinctly and clearly brought out. In general, however, as is too commonly the case, from the immense quantity of erudition necessary to discuss these subjects with any chance of success, which absorbs all the faculties of the writers, Mr Greg confines himself, we think, too much to books and to dogmas, to the letter rather than the spirit, to give the reader a correct view of the "Creed of Christendom." As the Christian's life is the best, and indeed only true expression of the Christian's creed, so the creed of Christendom can only be learned from, as it is expressed by, the lives of the majority of the inhabitants of Christendom. Verbal professions of faith are mere wind; theories

of creation or of morality, of man's beginning and his end, on which no human being acts, are mere matters of verbal theory; and books criticising them can never inform us what is the living creed of Christendom,—that which at once sets in motion the scholar and the soldier, the priest and the prince, the peasant and the artisan, and which, at the same time, corrects, restrains, informs, and improves all. The actual creed of Christendom is obviously different from what is written in our books. An analysis of action, tracing it to its source, and so displaying, from the lives of those who claim, some to expound, and others to enforce Christianity, what they believe, and what others, following their example rather than precepts, also believe, would give us an approximation to the creed of Christendom, to do which a critical examination of verbal creeds can make no claim. The title is more happily chosen for its alliteration than for the information it gives of the extensive scope and important contents of the book. It will rank high with those critical and erudite works, which have of late cleared up so many obscure matters in the history of religion, corrected so many false theories, dispelled so many errors, and done so much to bring into harmony science and religion, the voice of Nature and the voice of God.

We infer, from the very striking and affecting passage with which the preface closes, that the author was long tenderly and affectionately nurtured in creeds which his inquiries have compelled him to abjure. Not so fortunate as those who have been turned young on the world, and have learned their creeds, less from professions than acts, less from friends and books than from battling with facts, Mr Greg seems to have had his impassioned mind deeply impressed with errors. They were entwined round all his affections. "The past and the present," he says, "have chains and talismans which hold him back in his career, till every fresh step forward becomes an effort and an agony; every fresh error discovered is a fresh bond snapped asunder; every new glimpse of light is like a fresh flood of pain poured in upon the soul. To such a man, the pursuit of truth is a daily martyrdom; how hard and bitter, let the martyr tell. Shame to those who make it doubly so; honour to those who encounter it, saddened, weeping, trembling, but unflinching still." It certainly has been, but we trust will be so no more, that the pursuit of truth has drawn down on its votary the alienation of friends and the persecution of the public; but when that pursuit in natural science and in all the arts is honoured as the noblest occupation of man, it cannot long in morals and religion be held up to opprobrium: nor can the discoverers of errors in them be long exposed to either private or public persecution.

CHRISTIAN ASPECTS OF FAITH AND DUTY; Discourses by JAMES TAYLER, B.A. John Chapman, Strand.

MR TAYLER'S discourses are marked by much fervid sincerity, by plain and clear language, by calm, quiet, good taste. The business and duties of life are viewed under a Christian aspect, and the object of elevating and improving the human character is never lost sight of. By many others than the persons at whose request these discourses are published, they will be read and liked.

ORGANON DE LA PROPRIÉTÉ INTELLECTUELLE. Par M. J. B. A. M. JOBARD, Directeur du Musée de l'Industrie Belge, &c., &c. Brussels: A. Decq, Rue de la Madeleine.

THE close affinity that now exists between all the nations of Europe is made very palpable by their similar wants at almost all times dictating some similar kinds of pursuits. Revolutions are almost general at one time, and at another a steady devotion to the peaceful arts. Philosophy is fashionable at one period; at another nothing but novels, or history in the form of novels, will go down. Exhibitions or meetings of learned men are all the rage now; heretofore the flight of balloons, or a steady pursuit of wealth to be obtained by manufactures, demanded and received universal attention. In England a great deal is at present said and written about patent laws; in France, the laws for affixing marks to manufactures, and for regulating patents (*brevets d'invention*), have been recommended by the President to the Legislative Assembly for revision; in Brussels, the subject is of public interest, and M. Jobard publishes a work written in the exhaustive manner on intellectual property. The work and the law obviously concern a general want, which now requires to be satisfied.

Intellectual property, however, like other property, is somewhat undefined, and we all know a great deal better that we are not to take what belongs to another than we know what actually belongs to him. Some distinctions are broad enough. We in general know pretty well at any one moment what is and what is not our own, but that in a great many cases depends as much on the sufferance of others as on any distinct exertions of our own to get or make what we claim as ours, and so depending, it is in many cases uncertain. A doctrine in which we all now agree, which M. Jobard too adopts as the foundation of his work, is, that labour is the source of all value, and that the reward ought to be his who makes the exertion; and yet the bulk of manual labour is paid throughout Europe in wages that are pretty uniform, and that have little or no relation to the value of what the labourer produces. In fact they depend on totally different circumstances, from the value of his production, either to society or to his employer. The grower of a sack of wheat, for example, is not so well paid as a gentleman's valet, because there are, in proportion to the demand, many more peasants or labourers than valets. Moreover, the bulk of the labourers have no property whatever in what is the actual result of their own labour; they have only very scanty wages. The possessions of each—of landowners, capitalists, authors, artists, and manual labourers—are now settled and determined by exchange, and modern exchanges still depend on the ancient relations of men in society which then fixed a value on their exertions. Old slavery, with certain modifications, continues to modify the rewards of labour to this day. On this account almost all property may be said to be



held as it were by sufferance; it depends in some measure on opinion; and hence we are all more deeply impressed with the maxim, that we are not to take what does not belong to us, than clearly aware of the exact bounds of property. We cannot be surprised, therefore, that this general defect, if we may so call it, extends to intellectual property, and that there should exist throughout Europe a desire to define and secure it, and that throughout Europe attempts should be made to accomplish those objects. It is one of the general wants of the age which everywhere sets pens and tongues and legislators at work. M. Jobard is only following in the track of many others. He examines the subject from top to bottom, and has a plan of his own to settle all the difficulties. We miss, however, a distinct means of ascertaining each man's intellectual property—of deciding, for example, how much of any invention is due to an individual, and how much to the general progress of society. In fact, the difficulty is common to all property, and probably it will be better settled—as wages, profits, and rents are settled—by the higgling of the market, than by any law or regulation, patent or other. M. Jobard makes us some magnificent promises. He has a great idea of the riches to be obtained by intellectual exertion; it is, according to him, another and a superior California; but we still desiderate the means by which the enormous wealth is to be secured to mankind. All wealth is of slow growth, and as no human intellect foresees it, no human intellect can provide for it. M. Jobard is not in this respect more enlightened than his neighbours. He knows that knowledge and skill have abridged labour and multiplied wealth; he infers that they may hereafter do both indefinitely. Quite right, M. Jobard; but because we do not yet know their bounds, we cannot regulate them; and M. Jobard is not more successful in the attempt than others. His book fails to define an invention, and fails, we think, to point out any other means than the higgling of the market by which the advantages of inventions can be secured to the inventors. Human laws do not determine the distribution of wealth, though they influence it, and they cannot settle the rights of inventors. M. Jobard has made a careful attempt to this end, but has not been successful. The book will be useful as an examination of the subject, but the genius has not yet risen who can settle all the differences and disputes that exist about intellectual property.

**THE SOLDIERS OF THE CROSS; or, Scenes and Events from the Times of the Crusades.** Cradock and Co., Paternoster row.

The title of this little work is suggested, as is probably the publication itself, by the events of the day; nevertheless, it is a pleasant little collection of anecdotes of the Crusaders, and may beguile men from serious thoughts of business, and perhaps inspire them with serious thoughts of another kind. The trifle is amusing, and in no sense—which cannot be said of all amusing trifles—injurious.

**LONDON EXHIBITED IN 1851.** With 205 Illustrations. John Weale, High Holborn.

The production of this work is very appropriate for the Exhibition. It is very elaborate, and will be a very useful guide for strangers. It embraces notices of the natural history of London, as well as of all its remarkable places and buildings. All the newest improvements are recorded. The statistics include an account of the newspapers, and the newest printing-machine set up at the *Times*. The accounts of the buildings are very good, and the remarks on the old "White Tower" might be studied with great advantage by many modern architects. They might learn how to avoid the make-shifts and make-believes, by which modern architecture is disgraced. There is always visible in it a struggle between means and effect—a show of richness with the most miserable poverty of invention—a great waste of power, or rather wealth, to produce the paltriest effects. The description of the architecture of the metropolis is divided into different periods, which adds to its value. The illustrations of the book are very useful, well chosen, and well executed. Perhaps the work is too extensive for a hand-book—somewhat cumbersome in fact; but many persons who may find a smaller compendium more convenient for looking about with, will take this book into their libraries, and study it at their leisure to remind them of the extraordinary things in London they have been permitted but once in their lives to behold. London, owing to the coming Exhibition, will now be more abundantly described than ever it was before; and of the many descriptions that are now issuing from the press, Mr Weale's will be one of the most correct and elaborate.

**THE LIFE OF SAMUEL JOHNSON, L.L.D., &c.** By JAMES BOSWELL, Esq. A new edition. Elucidated by copious Notes, and illustrated with numerous Portraits, Views, and Characteristic Designs. In four vols. Vol. 1.

**THE BURIED CITY OF THE EAST: NINEVEH.** With numerous Illustrations. The two first volumes of the *Illustrated National Library*. Office, 198 Strand.

THESE are two volumes of a new series of publications distinguished for correctness, beauty, and cheapness. The chief feature of the undertaking is to impart additional information by numerous and elegant illustrations. "Whole pages of narrative," it is justly said, and "long abstruse descriptions, may be condensed into an illustration to be comprehended at a glance." The art of the engraver speaks with infinite quickness and infinite power to the eye compared to the art of the writer as appealing to the understanding. Whatever, therefore, is susceptible of being represented by pictorial art should be so placed before the world. In aid of that principle, it happens that all the arts of illustration, since we have learned how to make the sun our painter, have advanced most wonderfully, wowing us, as it were, to employ them to spread information throughout the family of man of everything the eye has ever beheld. Formerly the slow and painful process of illustration confined it to the adorned missals and

prayer-books of the sovereigns of the earth; now it embellishes the songs of the meanest of the people. The proprietors of the *National Illustrated Library*, profiting by improvements in the art, are to publish a series of works beautifully illustrated, and the two first numbers are now issued. It is the cheapest and most elegant addition to our literature that has yet been made. Of so well-known a book as Boswell's *Johnson* it is needless to speak. Of the *Buried City* it may be observed that it brings together and arranges, in a graphic and striking manner, all that has yet been disinterred of that monument of form-r grandeur. A careful notice of the remains of Assyrian workmanship in the *British Museum* concludes the volume. The series will embrace nearly the whole circle of our literature, comprising original works on all topics of general interest, and seems likely to form at once a complete and a beautifully-embellished library.

#### BOOKS RECEIVED.

London and its Vicinity exhibited in 1851. Weale.  
Christian Aspects of Faith and Duty: Discourses by John James Taylor, B.A. Chapman.

Baines's History of Liverpool. Section 5. Longman and Co.  
A First German Reading Book, &c. By Falck Lehmann. L.W.  
The Cricketer's Manual. By Bat. Baily, Brothers.  
Speeches of the Duke of Brunswick at the *Dispatch* and *Evening Sun*.  
Speeches of the Duke of Brunswick against the *Salistr*.

#### To Readers and Correspondents.

Communications must be authenticated by the name of the writer.

MR LUCAS's criticisms on our notice of an article in the "*Eclectic Review*" are best left to the mark. On again reading that notice, he will find that what he seeks to disprove was not said; and what was said may be fully substantiated.

DR WATTS's letter, referring to the same subject, small rather (as he himself admits) be addressed to the "*Eclectic Review*." The *Economist* has not space for the controversy which the publication of his letter and that of Mr Lucas would probably entail.

A CONSTANT READER, Halifax.—Our contributor, whose business it is to attend to postal information, acknowledges with thanks the criticisms contained in the letter of "A Constant Reader." The errors arose chiefly from following too implicitly the Post Office Packet List, which he will rely less upon in future. He will always be glad to have any error pointed out, as with the greatest care in our completed postal communications they may sometimes occur.

T.—This communication received, but is omitted for want of room.  
C. W.—Received.

## The Bankers' Gazette.

### BANK RETURNS AND MONEY MARKET.

#### BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From the Gazette.)

AN ACCOUNT, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending on Saturday the 14th day of April 1851:—

#### ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

L.		L.	
Notes issued .....	26,966,270	Government debt .....	11,015,100
		Other Securities .....	2,303,690
		Gold coin and bullion .....	12,531,354
		Silver bullion .....	33,375
	26,966,270		26,966,270

#### BANKING DEPARTMENT.

L.		L.	
Proprietors' capital .....	14,553,000	Government Securities, including Dead Weight Annuity ..	11,640,768
Reserve .....	2,097,920	Other Securities .....	11,901,832
Public Deposits (including Exchequer, Savings Banks, Commissioners of National Debt, and Dividend Accounts) ..	4,723,313	Notes .....	7,013,915
Other Deposits .....	10,164,340	Gold and Silver Coin .....	673,206
Seven Day and other Bills .....	1,093,219		
	33,631,811		33,631,811

Dated the 17th April, 1851.

THE OLD FORM.

M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

The above Bank accounts would, if made out in the old form, present the following result:—

L.		L.	
Circulation Inc. Bank post bills ..	21,053,574	Securities ..	25,435,430
Public Deposits ..	4,723,313	Bullion ..	13,525,136
Other or private Deposits ..	10,164,340		
	35,941,227		39,025,166

The balance of assets above liabilities being 3,097,939, as stated in the above account under the head *RESERVE*.

#### FRIDAY NIGHT.

The preceding accounts, compared with those of last week, exhibit—

An increase of Circulation of .....	£874,587
A decrease of Public Deposits of .....	4,142,768
An increase of Other Deposits of .....	591,500
A decrease of Securities of .....	2,303,690
A decrease of Bullion of .....	317,120
An increase of Rest of .....	51,561
A decrease of Reserve of .....	1,193,650

The present returns, embracing the commencement of the payments of the dividends, show a large increase of circulation, 878,557*l*; a large decrease of public deposits, 4,142,768*l*; an increase of private deposits, 591,500*l*, which can hardly be called correspondingly large; a large decrease of securities, 2,303,690*l*, the whole decrease, except 58,452*l*, being of private securities; a decrease of bullion, 317,120*l*, which, coming after a nearly equal decrease last week, may be called large; an increase of rest, 51,561*l*; and a decrease of reserve, 1,193,650*l*. Of course the principal part of these changes is due to the payment of the dividends, and to the parties who had lodged securities at the Bank for advances, having redeemed them. Though the payment of the dividends necessarily takes some bullion out of the Bank, it does not account for the whole sum now abstracted; last year at this time the diminution was 176,727*l*. The drain, therefore, we noticed last





APRIL 23.—Havana, Honduras, and Nassau.  
 APRIL 23.—America.  
 APRIL 26.—Spain, Portugal, and Gibraltar.  
 MAY 5.—Malta, Greece, Ionian Islands, Syria, Egypt, and India.  
 MAY 13.—Brazil and River Plate.  
 MAY 23.—China, Singapore, and Straits.

WEEKLY CORN RETURNS.  
 From the Gazette of last night.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Beans.	Peas.
Sold.....qr*	73,975	38,302	19,039	58	4,482	607
Weekly average, Apr. 12.....	39 0	24 2	17 5	24 7	25 4	25 6
— 5.....	34 4	23 10	17 0	23 11	25 11	24 8
— Mar. 29.....	28 1	23 7	16 7	28 5	25 7	24 5
— 22.....	27 5	23 3	16 9	22 8	25 8	25 9
— 15.....	37 2	23 1	16 6	23 2	25 6	25 8
— 8.....	36 9	22 7	16 2	24 4	25 7	26 7
Six weeks' average.....	37 9	23 5	16 9	24 6	25 9	25 5
Same time last year.....	38 1	23 5	15 1	22 2	24 0	25 3
Duties.....	1 0	1 0	1 0	1 0	1 0	1 0

GRAIN IMPORTED.

An account of the total quantities of each kind of corn, distinguishing foreign and colonial, imported into the principal ports of Great Britain, viz:—London, Liverpool, Hull, Newcastle, Bristol, Gloucester, Plymouth, Leith, Glasgow, Dundee, and Perth, in the week ending April 9, 1851.

	Wheat and wheat flour	Barley and barley-meal	Oats and oatmeal	Rye and rye-meal	Peas and pea-meal	Beans & bean-meal	Indian corn and Indian-meal	Buck wheat & buck-wheat meal
Foreign ...	51,730	16,703	21,502	1	837	1,290	480	...
Colonial ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	51,730	16,703	24,502	1	837	1,290	480	...
Total imports of the week .....	52,545 qrs.							

COMMERCIAL EPITOME.

FRIDAY NIGHT.

There was no Corn Market this day. In the early part of the week a large arrival of oats from the eastward lowered the price of that grain, but it continues relatively high, and is now 4s per quarter higher than this time last year. The demand for oats is great, and cargoes afloat were readily sold at what were conceived by the sellers to be good prices. Barley too is firm, and it is one collateral advantage of free trade that the market for barley is not so much limited to London as it was, and is not so much under the control of a very opulent but small body of men. In wheat and flour there is no change, but the disposition to part with flour is much less than it was, and it is held firm in the expectation that it will be more wanted than at present. The very favourable change in the weather may next week alter the views of the holders.

The Colonial Produce Market has exhibited no remarkable change in the week. Sugar is firm. In British West India a good business has been done. In white Benares an advance from 6d to 1s has taken place. In foreign sugars the business has been limited, and the price unaltered. Coffee, owing to the reduction of duty which has now taken effect, has been firm. Native Ceylon is at 40s to 41s, and plantation Ceylon is from 1s to 2s dearer than it was. Other coffees have advanced, notwithstanding the last arrivals from Rio, which bring lower prices. The following notice of the coffee trade there is from the circular of Messrs Lallemand and McGregor:—

This article began gradually to decline soon after the departure of the *Teviot* steamer, (11th ultimo), and sales were effected at a reduction of 200 to 250 rs on our last quotations up to the 24th, when more favourable accounts being received from the United States the market recovered, and prices rallied to their previous position. Since the arrival of the present conveyance with dull advices from Europe, the market has assumed a gloomy aspect, and doubtless a material decline would take place but for the limited stock on hand, 35,000 bags, and the certainty of the supplies being small for some time to come, owing to the late heavy rains having materially cut up the roads in the interior. A few sales were effected both yesterday and to-day at 100 to 150 rs below our annexed quotations. Sales last month 170,000 bags, and this month up to date about 45,000.

The shipments from 1st July, 1850, to the end of last month, amounted to 1,294,562 bags more than during the same period in 1849 to 1850. The shipments during the present running crop year may now be fairly estimated to reach, if not surpass 1,700,000 bags.

There were cleared last month 124,757 bags coffee, of which 45,226 bags for the United States, (against 21,662 bags in the corresponding month last year,) 6,570 for Antwerp, 1,200 for the Cape of Good Hope, 35,764 the English Channel, 6,602 for Hamburg, 10,405 for Havre, 1,793 for Mar-a-Hill, 4,202 for Portugal, 78 for River Plate, 3,881 for Russia, 8,836 for Sweden, 200 for Valparaiso.

P.S. Moderate amounts have been passed at our quotations. Friday, 14th March, 2 p.m.—Sales this morning about 7,000 bags of good first and superior at 3,450. Shipments this month 109,122 bags.

The cotton sales in the week have passed off heavily, and of 2,260 bales of Surat which were offered, only one pile of 550 bales seedy but showy, and of good staple, with small lots of ordinary, were sold, the former at 23d, the latter at 3 1/2 d. The accounts from the United States of the crop continue to be, in comparison to those of last year, favourable. The particulars are inserted elsewhere. The stock on hand, the supply, the shipments, the exports, are all greater this year than last, and the market for the manufactured article not being brisk, the expectation that the

price of the raw material will again advance, seems at present unfounded.

The Clyde West India mail packet has at length arrived, but her dates from the West Indies and Mexico have been forestalled by way of the United States. It is the same on the outward voyage as on the homeward voyage. "An arrival from the United States yesterday," says the *West Indian* of March 11, "has anticipated the English steamer with the Queen's Speech."

When this line of packets is continually distanced, both outward and homeward, by the indirect course of the United States, it is pretty clear that the scheme is altogether based on some error. There can be no doubt that with packets properly organised, between a Southern port of the United States and the West Indies, the communication could be much more speedily and advantageously carried on than by the direct voyage. The objection that used to be raised on account of not trusting our correspondence through a foreign state, seems now to fall away, since we are under the necessity of entrusting it across the Isthmus of Panama, and to California, by foreign conveyances. At any rate, the manner in which these packets are forestalled, both outwards and homewards, by indirect communication, must lead to some great alterations and improvement in the scheme on which they are organised.

INDIGO.

Since the arrival of the overland mail (on Wednesday) with accounts from Calcutta to the 8th March, which we subjoin, extensive transactions in indigo have taken place in this market; amongst others, the following marks are reported to have changed hands:—CM and Co., 308 chests; CM c K, 362 chests; ANT, 210 chests; CM c K and M and H, 114 chests; together 994 chests; and a few hundred chests more of various marks and sorts have likewise found buyers within the last few days. The whole of the purchases have been made at full February prices.

The declarations for the next quarterly sale in May have not made much progress this week, being as yet limited to about 3,200 chests.

Calcutta, March 8, 1851.

The Haddington steamer arrived three days ago, with London dates to the 24th January.

Since we had the honour to address you last (on the 8th ult.), we have no sales of indigo by private contract to report, except about 400 factory maunds of O & C—Colgong, Bhaugulpore—some time ago, to the Arabs at Co.'s rs. 163 per maund.

Seven public sales have been held, consisting altogether of 2,125 chests, 1,781 of which were readily disposed of. The following are the averages of the principal mark:—

G N M	25	Goyes—Nuddeah	Co.'s rs. 164 0 0	per Fy. Md.
P D	25	Subdulpore—Jessore	177 8 0	—
M X H	187	Henry Hill and Co.—Tirhoot	154 13 0	—
B	164	ditto ditto	157 1 5	—
G N C	306	Bancoorah—Burdwan	169 9 0	—
B	83	Bellah—Futtehgurh	137 8 0	—
E T	51	Sooltanpore—Purneah	154 5 0	—
A & E F	22	Madras—Kurrpah	125 0 0	—
E I	165	Estate of Col. James Skinner	137 6 0	—
J S		—Deihi		—

The Arabs and Moguls have completed their investments of the season; there appears to be no disposition on the part of our French customers to add much to the exports for their country, now amounting to 5,218 chests and 15 boxes, and the operations of the shipping season are evidently drawing to a close.

We stated in our last report that the total quantity of indigo available for sale or shipment this year would probably be as under:—

Stock on the 1st of November last	Fy. Mds.	3,365
Crop of 1849-50, as per factory invoices	—	119,390

Fy. Mds. 113,665

It will be quite impossible before May or June next to make a complete and correct account of the factory invoices of cultivation, 1849-50, but the following statement may, in the meantime, show you that we cannot have been far out in our calculation:—

	Chests.	Fy. Mds.
1.—Shipments to all parts up to last evening .....	...	100,340
2.—In course of shipment .....	670	2,560
3.—Balance of Arabs and Moguls .....	14	50
4.—Ditto of old contracts for arrival, now in second hands .....	980	3,680
5.—Ditto of Dab contracts, also in second hands .....	410	1,620
6.—Ditto in the Bazaar, original and second hands .....	412	1,485
7.—Ditto of European produce remaining in original hands ...	1,237	4,535
	3,783	1,14,273

Tirhoot and Chuprah have had excellent rains in January and the earlier part of February, and are very promising. Most of the zillahs in Bengal have also been visited with seasonable showers. The October plant is generally reported as beautiful.

With regard to seed, the "Dasee," (Kishnaghur) has lately fallen from 15 and 16 Co.'s rs. per bazaar maund to Co.'s rs. 8 and 8-8. The supply of Purneah and Bhaugulpore seed appears to be sufficient for the requirements of those zillahs, but we have not heard of any up-country seed being as yet obtainable under 25 Co.'s rs. per bazaar maund, and a very late letter from Azimghur states that none could be had there under Co.'s rs. 30.

You are fully aware that nothing positively certain can be said as to spring sowings until the departure of the "May" steamer, at the earliest, particularly this year with a deficiency of fully 40,000 mds in the up-country crop of seed. Should the sun continue to shine on the right side of the hedge throughout the sowings season, we might not mind these 40,000 maunds much, though, under all circumstances, it will be difficult to say whence seed for next October sowings, for which alone about 30,000 maunds are required, will be procurable; but if excessive rains or droughts interfere with the sowings ere completed, we must not disguise from you the fact that we would, in that case, have hardly 10,000 or 12,000 maunds of sound seed upon which to fall back for re-sowings.—*William Moran and Co.'s Circular.*

MONTHLY STATEMENT OF THE STOCKS AND SUPPLY OF SUGAR AND COFFEE IN THE SIX PRINCIPAL MARKETS OF EUROPE.

Table with columns for April 1, 1848, 1849, 1850, 1851 and rows for Holland, Antwerp, Hamburg, Trieste, Havre, England, Total, and Total in Gt. Britain of col. sugar.

\* In first hands only; in all other places in first and second.

Value in the first half of the month of April in London, per cwt., without the Duty.

Table with columns for Musco., E. and W. India, Havana, Brazil, Java, and Patent, crushed in bond, with sub-columns for 1850 and 1851.

Table showing Total stock, January 1, 1850 and 1851, broken down by location (Holland, Antwerp, Hamburg, Trieste, Havre, England).

Table showing Total stock, April 1, as per table, and Deliveries in three months for 1850 and 1851.

The abundant crops in the principal producing countries show their effect in the above table; the imports in the enumerated six entrepôts during the month of March were more than 900,000 cwt, against but 470,000 cwt in March, 1850.

The value of nearly all kinds of sugar is at present 1s per cwt lower than last month; it differs but slightly from the quotations at the corresponding periods of 1850 and 1849, whilst it is higher than in 1848, when the value of all commodities was much depressed through political events.

The business in sugar of foreign growth has lately been quite insignificant in our markets, being entirely limited to the demand for immediate consumption in this country.

The last prices paid for floating cargoes of yellow Havana, Dutch standard No. 13 and 12, are 22s 6d and 21s 6d; they could not now be easily obtained.

COFFEE.

Table with columns for April 1, 1848, 1849, 1850, 1851 and rows for Holland, Antwerp, Hamburg, Trieste, Havre, England, Total, and Total in Gt. Britain of col. sugar.

\* In first hands only; in all other places in first and second.

Value in the first half of the month of April in London, per cwt., without the Duty.

Table with columns for Jamaica, Ceylon, Brazil, St Domingo, and In Holland—Java, gd. ord. 1/2 skil, with sub-columns for 1850 and 1851.

Table showing Total stock, January 1, 1850 and 1851, broken down by location (Holland, Antwerp, Hamburg, Trieste, Havre, England).

Table showing Total stock, April 1, as per table, and Deliveries in three months for 1850 and 1851.

The imports during the past months have been nearly three times as large as in the same month of last year, viz., 433,000 cwt, against 147,000 cwt, and the total total supplies received during the first quarter of 1851 consequently show a surplus of more than 300,000 cwt, against the same period in 1850.

aggregate deliveries for the whole of the year 1849, which were 2,942,000 cwt, whilst in 1850 they were reduced to 2,308,000 cwt.

The present total stocks of coffee appearing in the above table vary but slightly from those of the preceding month, but, compared with former years, the position is essentially altered, for in the beginning of last month the quantities on hand were smaller than at the corresponding period of the three previous years, whilst now the stocks are equal to last year's, considerably larger than in 1849, but much smaller than in 1848.

The value of coffee has declined fully 10 per cent. in most of the chief continental markets since the beginning of last month, less in this market; it is at present 25 per cent. lower than at the corresponding period of last year, but nearly in the same proportion higher than in 1848 and 1849.

The reduced duty of 3d per lb on all descriptions of coffee, British plantation as well as foreign, has now come into operation in this country, but it is not expected that this alteration will have the effect of giving an impulse to the consumption.

The last advices from Rio Janeiro, 14th March, report that the shipments since 1st July, 1850,—inclusive of the quantities that were actually loading in the vessels in port on the 14th March,—already exceeded 1,500,000 bags; considering that there were yet three months and a half of the season unexpired, the last estimates of the crop 1850-51, varying from 1,700,000 to 2,000,000 bags, do not appear to be exorbitant.

For floating cargoes of Brazil coffee, arrived off the coast, holders are now asking 40s, whilst offers do not exceed 37s to 38s per cwt.

COTTON.

New York, April 2.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT

OF RECEIPTS, EXPORTS, AND STOCKS OF COTTON AT

Table showing comparative statement for NEW ORLEANS, MOBILE, FLORIDA, TEXAS, and GEORGIA across different months.

Table with columns for 1850-51, 1849-50, Increase, and Decrease, showing data for On hand in the ports, Received at the ports, Exported to Great Britain, etc.

STOCK OF COTTON IN INTERIOR TOWNS

Table showing Stock of cotton in interior towns for 1850-51 and 1849-50.

COTTON TAKEN FOR CONSUMPTION IN THE UNITED STATES

Table showing Cotton taken for consumption in the United States from Sept. 1 to the above dates, with columns for 1850-51 and 1849-50.

VESSELS LOADING IN THE UNITED STATES.

Table showing Vessels loading in the United States, with columns for Ports, For Gt. Britain, For France, and For other Port.

Freight (Packet Rate) to Liverpool—Cotton, square bales, 3-15d to 1d per lb. Exchange, 109 1/2 to 110 1/2.

The apprehension of unfavourable accounts last week by the Canada, from Liverpool, depressed our market, and some decline was submitted to, but those proving more favourable than were expected, our market recovered its firmness—so now, with reference to the advices next expected, holders have been willing sellers, and buyers have operated cautiously, so that we have had a dull market, and yesterday there was scarcely anything done, closing at a decline of a 1/4 of a cent. per lb; we revise our quotations accordingly.

Table showing prices for Atlantic Ports, Florida, and Other Gulf Ports, with sub-columns for inferior, low to good, and fully fair to good fair.

EXPORTS FROM THE PORT OF HULL.

From 1st January to 9th April, 1851, and the corresponding period in 1850. (Extracted from the Customs Bill of Entry.)

Table with columns for Cotton Twist, Worsted Yarn, Other Yarns & Threads, Cotton Goods, Wool-Ins Goods, Cotton Wool. Rows list destinations like Petersburg, Hamburg, Bremen, etc., with values for 1850 and 1851.

Messrs Brownlow, Pearson, and Co's Circular.

MARKETS OF THE MANUFACTURING DISTRICTS.

MANCHESTER, THURSDAY EVENING, APRIL 1, 1851.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF THE COTTON TRADE.

Table comparing cotton trade prices from 1851 to 1846. Columns include Price April 10, 1851, and various dates from 1846 to 1851. Rows list raw cotton types like Upland fair, Ditto good fair, etc.

Depression continues unabated, and the limited business done during the week is on worse terms for the producers than the very unsatisfactory rates of last week.

The Germans still continue to operate in yarns to supply their more pressing wants, and are the principal buyers; for other foreign markets and our home manufactures the business doing is extremely small.

In cloth a fair amount is still going on for India and China, and the inquiries of our home-trade houses have been more numerous for printing cloths and domestics, but very little has been done.

In the commercial accounts received last night from India and China there is nothing satisfactory character. At Bombay an increased amount of business had been transacted, and in many cases at an advance in rupees, but the lower rates of exchange more than counterbalanced any advance that could be obtained.

BRADFORD, April 17.—The stock of combing wools coming to market is very insignificant, it being held by the dealers and growers for prices that cannot be realised here. The spinners, from their long absence as buyers, are only bare of stock; but the position of the yarn trade is such that they will not buy, except at prices the staplers are not justified in accepting, and they cling to their stocks, knowing that the scanty supply of good wools in the market must be cleared off long before any weight of new wools can be brought here.

LEEDS, April 15.—There has been a good attendance at the cloth halls both to-day and on Saturday last, and rather more goods have been sold. There is no alteration in prices, and business is also a little brisker in the warehouses.

Huddersfield, April 15.—The amount of business transacted to-day in the cloth-hall has not been large. Low goods of light texture have principally been dealt in. There is rather more briskness in the fancy trade than there has been for some time, and most of the manufacturers in that branch are very brisk in vestings of new styles and patterns for the summer home trade.

Macclesfield, April 15.—The activity displayed by the wholesale houses noted in our last, has not yet been followed by a corresponding demand for goods. With one or two exceptions very little business has been transacted in the interior; the result of this is that the manufacturers are exercising renewed caution and stopping production where practicable.

ROCHDALE, April 14.—The flannel market is still heavy and not much doing, yet there has been rather more inquiry for goods. The wool market continues slack, but former prices are fully maintained.

HALIFAX, April 12.—The chief inquiry in our piece-hall to-day has been for low fastings and low mixtures. The demand, however, is not brisk, and the prices offered are not remunerative. Both in yarns and wool rather more purchases have been made; but the markets are still dull, and the quotations without variation.

LONDON MARKETS.

STATE OF THE CORN TRADE FOR THE WEEK.

MARK LANE, FRIDAY MORNING.

There was a short supply of wheat from all the near counties at Mark Lane last Monday, and there was no briskness in the demand, although for the driest samples former prices were obtained, whilst damp parcels on the Kentish stands were reported by the hoymen to have been sold at a reduction of 1s per qr. The imports of foreign wheat were quite moderate, consisting of 317 qrs from Dunkirk, 400 qrs from Ghent, 713 qrs from Hamburg, 129 qrs from Harlingen, 750 qrs from Heiligenhafen, 650 qrs from Lubeck, 650 qrs from Rotterdam, and 920 qrs from Wolgast, making a total of 4,559 qrs, the trade for which was slow, but without any alteration in the value of good samples.

The importations at Liverpool market on Tuesday were limited of wheat, amounting only to 4,600 qrs; fine fresh qualities brought rather more money, but other sorts were 1d to 2d per 70lbs cheaper: average, 39s 3d on 148 qrs. There was an abundant arrival of flour from France, consisting of 22,222 sacks, with 4,990 barrels from the United States; a reduction of 6d to 1s per 280lbs was accepted, with a decline of 6d per barrel on American.

There were fair imports at Hull, as well as moderately good deliveries of wheat from the growers; the buyers had the turn in their favour, although the decline was not quotable: average, 37s 6d on 686 qrs.

There were moderately fair arrivals of wheat at Leeds, and a decline of 1s per qr was submitted to: average, 40s on 2,303 qrs. Fine barley was in brisk demand at 1s per qr advance: average, 26s 4d on 1,134 qrs.

There was a very short quantity of all English grain fresh up at Mark Lane on Wednesday, and only one small cargo of foreign barley, but a fair import of wheat and oats, with a few parcels of flour from France. Not the least change occurred in the value of wheat whether English or foreign, but the business transacted was to a very limited extent. Flour commanded Monday's currency, with a moderate sale of prime marks. All sorts of barley were quite as dear and in good request. The oat trade was tolerably firm, and previous rates were well maintained; the consumption of this article remains very large, the supplies of the previous week rather exceed it, but this week has fallen short.

Edinburgh market was fairly supplied with wheat by the farmers, trade was very dull and rather lower: average, 40s 5d on 730 qrs.

The imports at Glasgow were limited up the Clyde, but good to Grange-mouth; the market was well attended, but there was only a limited sale for both wheat and flour, at however no material change in prices. Limerick oats commanded 16s 3d per 264lbs. Floating cargoes of wheat have been held very firmly this week, which checked business therein, but a few sales of Indian corn have taken place, Galatz at about 31s per qr, cost, freight, and insurance included. Ancona is now held at 27s per qr. This article has attained a high price at Liverpool.

On account of Good Friday the Coin Exchange, Mark Lane, was not opened for business on that day.

The London averages announced this day were,—

Table showing London averages for Wheat, Barley, Oats, Rye, Beans, and Peas with prices in qrs and s d.

Arrivals this Week.

Table showing arrivals for Wheat, Barley, Malt, Oats, and Flour with prices in qrs and s d.

PRICES CURRENT OF CORN, &c.

BRITISH AND IRISH.

Per quarter.

Large table listing prices for various types of wheat, barley, oats, and flour from different regions like Essex, Kent, Suffolk, etc., with prices in s and d.

FOREIGN.			
Wheat	Danzig, Königsberg, high mixed and white	45	50
Do	do mixed and red	43	45
Pomeranian, Mecklenburg, marks, red		41	46
Silesian, white		39	44
Danish, Holstein, and Friesland, do		38	40
Do	do, red	35	40
Russian, hard	36s 37s Soft	32	39
French, red	33 41 White	39	42
Canadian, red	41 43 White	43	45
Italian and Tuscan, do	41 43 Do	45	46
Egyptian	25 28 Fine	27	29
Malze	Yellow	28	30
Barley	Grinding	18	20
Beans	Ticks	24	26
Peas	White	25	28
Oats	Dutch brew and thick	20	21
	Russian feed	18	19
	Danish, Mecklenburg, and Friesland feed	16	18
Flour	Danzig, per barrel 21s 22s, American	21	23
Tares	Large Gore 3s 36s, old 23s 25s, new	26	30
SEEDS.			
Linseed	Perqr rashing, Baltic 44s 48s, Odessa	48s	50s
Rapeseed	Perqr last do foreign 20s 25s, English	23s	25s
Hempseed	Perqr large	34	35
Canaryseed	Perqr 43s 45s Carraway per cwt	20	33
Mustardseed	Perbushel, brown	8	12
Cloverseed	Percwt English white new	44	54
	Foreign do	35	56
Trefoil	English do	16	20
Linseed cake, foreign	Per ton 67s to 71 15s, English, per ton	71	5s to 71 10s
Rape do	do	47s	to 47 4s, Do per ton

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL PRODUCE MARKETS.

TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

MINCING LANE, THURSDAY EVENING.

The colonial produce markets will be closed on Tuesday next the 20th inst. **SUGAR.**—There has been rather a better feeling in the market this week about 1,100 casks British West India have found buyers at previous rates, but the demand from refiners continues limited. 160 casks Barbadoes offered by auction on Tuesday were all disposed of as follows:—Good to fine yellow, 40s 6d to 42s 9d; low to middling, 37s 6d to 40s; brown, 36s, being barely former prices for the lower descriptions. The deliveries are steady, and show a decrease of about 3,785 tons to present date as compared with the former season's. Estimated stock at this port on the 12th instant—53,172 tons, against 66,902 tons at same time in 1850.

**Mauritius.**—Large supplies have been brought upon the market this week, and rather lower rates were established at the commencement. 12,682 bags submitted in the public sales have chiefly found buyers: fine yellow, 40s to 41s; middling to good, 37s to 39s 6d; low, 36s to 38s 6d; low to very good strong refining kinds, 36s 6d to 39s 6d; brown middling to good, 33s to 36s; low to middling, 28s 6d to 33s; crystallized yellow, middling to good, 40s to 42s 6d per cwt. There was a considerable increase in the stock during last week.

**Bengal.**—Grainly descriptions have met with a good demand at full rates, and white Benares shows an improvement of 1s from the late lowest point, being rather scarce. 6,857 bags were all sold: Dhobah, fine, 42s to 42s 6d; low to good, 37s to 40s 6d; good Dacca, 42s; low to good middling white Benares, 39s 6d to 41s 6d; good soft yellow ditto, 39s to 39s 6d per cwt.

**Madras.**—Low qualities continue dull, and 1,631 bags were chiefly bought in at previous rates, from 27s to 30s. A few lots grocery sold from 33s to 36s per cwt.

**Foreign.**—The transactions for export are limited. At auction, on Wednesday, 155 casks 202 barrels grocery Porto Rico found ready buyers at full rates: middling to good, 40s to 42s 6d, one lot, 39s. 290 casks 65 boxes Muscovado, of indirect import, brought 35s to 39s 6d for good brown to middling greyish yellow. To-day, the sound portion of 675 boxes Havana was taken in above the market value; 200 boxes washed selling from 37s to 42s 6d for brown to fine grey. Privately, 600 boxes yellow Havana have sold at 38s 6d per cwt.

**Refined.**—Several parcels foreign goods have been sold at low prices, and the market continues flat. Brown lumps may be quoted at 47s 6d to 48s. Scarcely anything offering under the latter price: middling to good and fine titlers, 49s 6d to 51s; wet lumps, 45s 6d to 48s. Other articles are quiet as last quoted. Treacle is worth 12s 6d to 13s. The bonded market has been inactive, without further alteration in prices: crushed, 28s to 28s 6d; 10lb loaves, 30s 6d to 31s 6d. Dutch has sold at a further decline.

**MOLASSES.**—The transactions in West India are very limited.

**COFFEE.**—The trade have shown rather more confidence in the market this week, a moderate amount of business having been done. Native Ceylon has advanced 1s 6d to 2s from the late lowest point, a few sales being reported in good ordinary at 40s 6d to 41s. Plantation also shows a like improvement, and 385 casks 506 bags were chiefly taken by the trade: low middling to good, 51s to 59s 6d; fine to fine fine ordinary bold, 50s to 53s 6d; ragged and ordinary, 44s 6d to 49s. Some parcels have sold by private contract. On Tuesday, 136 bales Mocha sold at full rates, chiefly from 68s to 70s for fair to good clean garbled. 412 bags Old Dutch Company's Java were taken in at 50s to 50s 6d. Foreign has been quiet. About 700 bags Costa Rica have sold privately at 51s, being a full price. 220 bags washed Rio partly found buyers at 49s to 50s per cwt.

To-day, 95 casks 45 bags plantation brought 64s to 65s for good bold, being high rates. 859 bales Mocha sold steadily at the above quotations. 451 bags Old Dutch Company's Java withdrawn at 53s, and 591 barrels Porto Rico at 46s to 49s. A few lots Costa Rica brought about 2s higher rates.

**TEA.**—The market has been rather quiet this week, but common congous still find ready buyers at 1s 0½d to 1s 0¼d; good and fine almost neglected. There is not much business doing in green. The trade are awaiting arrivals of fine new kinds, so that present quotations may be considered partly nominal. Canton made teas have not experienced any material alteration. The China news has had little effect upon the market here. Fine greens opened at high rates, which prevented much being taken for this kingdom; but some considerable purchases reported for the American market. Shipments of black to latest date continued very large as compared with the former season's, the increase being 3,000,000 to 6,000,000 lbs.

**COCA.**—A limited business has been done in the absence of public sales. The deliveries for consumption were steady.

**RICE.**—During the past fortnight three cargoes of Arracan have been sold for future arrival at 8s. The sales in Bengal and other kinds of East India have been limited as the market continues quiet. A small parcel low pinky Madras sold by auction at 7s 6d to 8s per cwt.

**PIMENTO.**—There is a steady demand for this article, and 500 bags found buyers at extreme rates, from 4½d to 4¾d per lb. The stock has increased, being 11,106 bags on the 12th inst.

**OTHER SPICES.**—There has not been much business done in nutmegs or mace

since the late large public sales. A parcel fair damp Bourbon cloves sold at 6½d per lb.

**RYE.**—The sales have been limited, as there is no improvement in the export demand.

**SALTPETRE.**—The market continues flat, with rather a downward tendency. 1,725 bags Bengal were chiefly bought in at previous rates: refras 8 to 7½, 26s; 15½ to 9½, 25s 6d per cwt. The stock consists of 2,773 tons, against 3,812 tons last year.

**NITRATE SODA** is quiet at 14s 6d per cwt.

**DRUGS, &c.**—Yesterday 314 chests East India gum Arabic were all disposed of at about last week's prices: good middling brought 41s 6d to 45s; good bold pale, 55s to 55s 6d. 45 chests oilbannum sold chiefly at 16s to 17s 6d for low dark block. Gum animi brought steady rates. The sound portion of 588 bales common East India senna sold at 1½d to 1¼d per lb. 148 boxes China rhubarb went cheap: middling round, 1s; flat, 1s 0½d to 1s 1½d per lb. Gambier has been quiet. Some Cutch sold at 21s for sea damaged, with one lot sound, 22s per cwt. Safflower is firm.

**COCHINEAL.**—The public sales to day comprised 324 bags Honduras silvers, which were about half sold. Some of the middling qualities went rather cheaper: ordinary to good, 3s 2d to 3s 8d per lb. The deliveries are large.

**LAC DYE.**—The market is very flat, and 60 chests were chiefly taken in: a few lots fine went at 2s 0½d to 2s 1½d; good CAV 1s 6½d to 1s 9½d; other marks from 1s to 1s 10d per lb.

**METALS.**—The demand for most descriptions of iron has been inactive at the quotations. Railway bars are held for rather higher rates. Scotch pig is quiet. Some further speculative business has been done in spelter at 15½ for arrival. East India tin continues dull, and prices are nominally lower. No change in British. Tinplates are 6d per box lower. British copper remains firm, with a steady inquiry.

**OILS.**—There is not any improvement in the demand for most kinds of common fish. Cod and seal continue without alteration. Southern whale sold by auction yesterday at 28½ 15s to 30½ 5s. Sperm brought 87½ to 87½ 15s per tun for fine colonial. The linseed oil market has been quiet, but the crushers still demand 33s 3d per cwt. Rape is very dull. Cocoa nut has been steady.

**TURPENTINE.**—Rough continues scarce in the absence of arrivals. British drawn spirits have advanced to 34s per cwt.

**LINSEED.**—The market is rather quiet without any change in prices. Linseed cakes have met with a good demand, owing to the scarcity of foreign, and sales to some extent made in English, which is now worth 7½ 5s per ton.

**TALLOW.**—There was some speculative inquiry in the early part of the week, and a large business done in YC at 40s 6d, or 6d above the closing price of last week; but the market since became rather quiet with sellers at 40s 3d on the spot: 39s 6d to 40s demanded for the last three months. The stock on Monday consisted of 34,954 casks, against 30,663 casks in 1850. Delivered last week 1,379 casks.

The sales to-day went off without alteration in prices. 184 casks Australian chiefly sold from 36s to 38s 9d; 255 casks, 189 boxes South American chiefly taken in, a portion finding buyers at 36s to 37s 6d; low, 35s per cwt.

ADDITIONAL NOTICES.

**REFINED SUGAR.**—The home market for refined sugar continues very dull with rather a downward tendency. Several parcels of Dutch loaves and titlers have been sold at 24s 6d to 25s 9d in bond—about 150 tons. The bonded for loaves and crushed remains without any material alteration: very few sales have been effected. Treacle dull. About 300 tons of Dutch crushed have been sold for this market at 23s 9d to 25s 9d, and about 300 tons of Belgian lump at 25s and 25s 6d, deliverable here free of all charges.

**DRY FRUIT.**—There is no new feature to report in this market, which continues in a depressed state. The attention of the trade is being called to Turkey red raisins, which are at this moment comparatively cheaper than any other sort of dried fruit. A cargo of chestnuts in barrels and cases, out of condition and going off, was sold on Thursday, by auction, at 28s to 30s, the chief part taken by foreign houses for shipment.

**GREEN FRUIT.**—The market is completely bare of oranges, owing to contrary winds preventing arrivals. A parcel of 400 boxes, per steamer from Lisbon, sold by Keeling and Hunt at public sale, went at an advance of 2s to 3s per box. St Michael's have advanced in proportion. Lemons dull of sale, and any attempt to press sales is attended with a reduction in price. Nuts do not sell as freely as was anticipated, but an improved demand is looked for during the Easter holidays.

**SEEDS.**—The market has been fairly supplied with seed of every description except canary, which comes slowly to hand. The quotations of last week are unaltered, and the demand for grass seeds is improving. In cakes and feeding seeds there is but little doing.

**ENGLISH WOOL.**—The trade continues moderately active, and prices very firm.

**COLONIAL AND FOREIGN WOOL.**—The market is still in the same quiet but firm state as to prices as for some weeks past. There is little or nothing doing; few arrivals, and stock on hand very light.

**COTTON.**—The market has been dull, and there are no reported sales by private contract this week. On Thursday 2,200 bales Surat and 1,370 Tinnivelly Madras were offered at public sale; but, buyers showing little disposition to purchase, the whole of the Madras was bought in at very high rates, say 6d per lb fair to good fair; of the Surat, about 600 bales, mostly fair broach, but extremely seedy, and totally unfit for exportation, were sold at 8½d per lb.

**SILK.**—During the last week there has been more business doing in China silk, the importers having conceded about 1s to 1s 6d per lb. Other silks remain without alteration.

**FLAX AND HEMP** have both been very quiet this week, and very few sales made.

**METALS** remain without any alteration since our last Spelter.—Upwards of 600 tons have changed hands at from 15½ to 15½ 2s 6d per ton to arrive. These are, however, speculative purchases; consumers still refrain from buying, having mostly large stocks. Tin continues very quiet, and prices quite nominal. Lead firm, but inactive. Tinplates have slightly receded in price. All descriptions of iron unaltered.

**LEATHER AND HIDES.**—The transactions in leather during the past week have been about an average extent, and prices have experienced very little variation. Light crop hides are scarce and in request: light butts, English, and foreign, common East India kips, best rounded calf-kips about 40lbs per dozen, and all qualities below that weight, find buyers readily at former rates.

Imports from Jan 1 to April 17, 1851	428,241 hides
Do do April 18, 1850	403,370 —
Sales do April 17, 1851	332,000 —
Do do April 18, 1850	379,000 —
Present stock, 70,000 hides.—Stock April 17, 1850, 137,000 hides.	

PROVISIONS.

The bacon market lively; 50s on board refused yesterday, and an advance of 1s to 2s per cwt. submitted to-day, and even at these rates the present price of pigs in Ireland will not leave the manufacturer a profit.





COMMERCIAL TIMES

Weekly Price Current.

The prices in the following list are carefully revised every Friday afternoon, by an eminent house in each department.

LONDON, FRIDAY EVENING. Add Five per cent to duties, except spirits, tallow, sugar, nutmegs, and timber.

Ashes duty free First sort Pot, U.S. p.cwt 28s 6d 29s 0d Montreal... 28 0 29 0 First sort Pearl, U.S. ... 28 0 28 6 Montreal... 28 0 28 6

Cocoa duty B.P. 1d p lb. For 2d. Trinidad ... per cwt 44 0 54 0 Grenada ... 42 0 48 0 Para, Bahia, & Guayaquil 28 0 31 0

Coffee duty B.P. 4d p lb. For 6d. Jamaica, triage and ord., per cwt, bond ... 40 0 46 0 good and fine ord. ... 47 0 50 0 low to good middling ... 52 0 65 0 fine middling and fine ... 70 0 100 0

Ceylon, ord to good ord of native growth ... 39 0 41 0 plantation kind, triage and ord ... 40 0 45 0 good to fine ord. ... 46 0 50 0 low middling to fine ... 51 0 55 0

Mecha, fine ... 70 0 78 0 cleaned garbled ... 64 0 68 0 ord and ungarbled ... 45 0 52 0 Sumatra ... 39 0 46 0 Padang ... 43 0 43 0

Batavia ... 45 0 30 0 Manila ... 45 0 30 0 Brazil, ord to good ord. ... 45 0 50 0 fine ord and coloury ... 38 0 40 0

St Domingo ... 41 0 43 0 Cuba, ord to good ord ... 41 0 43 0 fine ord to fine ... 39 0 41 0 Costa Rica ... 41 0 60 0 La Guayra ... 41 0 60 0

Cotton duty free Surat ... per lb 0 4 0 5 1/2 Bengal ... 0 0 0 0 Madras ... 0 0 0 0

Pernam ... 0 4 0 6 Bowed Georgia ... 0 0 0 0 New Orleans ... 0 7 0 7 1/2 Demerara ... 0 7 0 8

St Domingo ... 0 0 0 0 Egyptian ... 0 0 0 0 Smyrna ... 0 0 0 0 Drugs & Dyes duty free COCHINEAL

Black ... per lb 3 9 5 0 Silver ... 3 3 4 0 LAC DYE D.T. ... per lb 1 10 1 11

Other marks ... 0 6 2 6 SHELLAC Orange ... p.cwt 43 0 51 6 Other sorts ... 38 0 50 0

TURMERIC Bengal ... per cwt 15 0 17 0 China ... 16 0 18 0 Java and Malabar ... 12 0 16 6

TERRA JAPONICA Catch, Pegue, gd, p.cwt 21 0 22 0 Gambier ... 15 6 16 0 Dyewoods duty free LOGWOOD

Honduras ... per ton 3 10 4 0 Jamaica ... 5 0 5 0 Campeachy ... 6 10 7 0 FUSTIC

Jamaica ... per ton 3 10 4 0 Cuba ... 6 10 8 10 NICARAGUA WOOD Lima ... per ton 13 0 15 0

Other large solid ... 10 0 13 0 Small and rough ... 9 0 10 0 SAPAM WOOD Bimas ... per ton 10 0 12 0

Sides—Ox & Cow, per lb B.A. and M.Vid. dry Do. & R Grande, salted Prazil, dry ... 0 5 0 7 0 3 0 4 0 4 0 4 0

Rio, dry ... 0 2 0 3 1/2 Lima & Valparaiso, dry Cape, salted ... 0 5 0 6 2 New South Wales ... 0 2 0 4

Indigo duty free Bengal ... per lb 2 9 6 6 Oude ... 3 6 5 0 Madras ... 2 8 4 5

Leather, per lb Crop hides ... 30 to 40 lb 0 9 1 0 English Butts ... 16 24 0 11 1 4

Foreign do ... 16 25 0 10 1 1 1 Calfskins ... 20 35 0 10 1 4

Metal—COPPER Sheathing, bolts, &c. B ... 0 9 1 0 Bottoms ... 0 10 0 0

IRON, per ton Bars, &c. British ... £ 5 15 6 0 Nail rods ... 6 12 6 15

LEAD, p ton—Eng. pig 17 lb 17 1/2 sheet ... 18 5 0 0 red lead ... 18 10 0 0

STEEL, Swedish, in kg's 14 15 15 0 in faggots ... 15 0 15 5 SPELTER, for per ton 15 0 0

TIN duty B.P. 3s p cwt, For 6s bars ... 84 0 0 0 Banca, in bond, nom. ... 85 0 0 0

TIN PLATES, per box Charcoal, 1 C ... 32s 6d 33s 0d Coke, 1 C ... 27 0 0 0

Molasses duty B.P. 4s 2d, For 5s 9d Refiners, d p, per cwt 14 0 17 0 Do export (on board) 6d 12 0 14 0

Oils—Fish Seal, pale, p 252 gal d p 32 15 33 0 Yellow ... 31 0 32 0

Rape, do ... 4 0 4 5 Sperm ... 86 0 87 0 Head matter ... 82 0 82 0

Provisions—All articles duty paid. Butter—Waterford new 76s 6d 78s 6d Cork ... 76 0 10 0

Rice duty B.P. 6d p cwt, For 1s Bengal, white, per cwt ... 8 0 11 0 Madras ... 7 5 8 0

Sago duty 6d per cwt. Flour, per cwt ... 18 0 21 0 Pearl ... 15 0 16 0

Saltpetre Bengal p.cwt 28 0 29 6 Madras ... 25 6 27 6 NITRATE OF SODA ... 14 6 15 0

Seeds Caraway, for old, p.cwt 28 0 32 0 Eng. new 32s 3/4, old 32 0 0 0

Silk duty free Surdah ... per lb 13 0 18 6 Cossimbuzar ... 9 0 18 0

Spices—PIMENTO, duty 5s per cwt ... per lb bond 0 4 0 5 PEPPER, duty 6d p lb

Spirits—Jamaica, 15 to 25 O.P. per gal ... 5 10 6 0 5 5 5 7

Sugar duty B.P. 11s or 12s 10d p cwt, For 15s 6d, 17s, or 18s 1d

W.I. B.P. d.p.cwt 36 0 38 6 middling ... 39 0 41 0 good and fine ... 42 0 45 0

Wool—English—Per pack of 240 lb Fleeces, So. Down hogs 14s 0d 14 10s

Tobacco duty 5s per lb s d s d Maryland, per lb, bond ... 0 6 0 0

Turpentine duty For Spirits 15s Rough ... per cwt d p 8 3 8 6

Wine duty 5s 6d per gal s d s d Port ... per pipe 24 0 52 0

Wine duty 5s 6d per gal s d s d Port ... per pipe 24 0 52 0 Claret ... 24 0 52 0

Wine duty 5s 6d per gal s d s d Port ... per pipe 24 0 52 0 Claret ... 24 0 52 0

Wine duty 5s 6d per gal s d s d Port ... per pipe 24 0 52 0 Claret ... 24 0 52 0

Wine duty 5s 6d per gal s d s d Port ... per pipe 24 0 52 0 Claret ... 24 0 52 0

Wine duty 5s 6d per gal s d s d Port ... per pipe 24 0 52 0 Claret ... 24 0 52 0

Wine duty 5s 6d per gal s d s d Port ... per pipe 24 0 52 0 Claret ... 24 0 52 0

Wine duty 5s 6d per gal s d s d Port ... per pipe 24 0 52 0 Claret ... 24 0 52 0

Wine duty 5s 6d per gal s d s d Port ... per pipe 24 0 52 0 Claret ... 24 0 52 0

SUGAR—REF. cont'd s d s d Titlers, 20 to 28 lb ... 29 6 0 0

Tallow Duty B.P. 1d, For 1s 6d p.cwt N. Amer. melted, p.cwt 37 0 39 0

Tea duty 2s 1d per lb Congou, ord and com 6d 1 0 1 0

Timber Duty, foreign 7s d, B.P. 1s per load Danzig and Memel fir 55 0 70 0

Quebec oak ... 95 0 100 0 African ... 70 0 100 0

Wool—English—Per pack of 240 lb Fleeces, So. Down hogs 14s 0d 14 10s

Tobacco duty 5s per lb s d s d Maryland, per lb, bond ... 0 6 0 0

Turpentine duty For Spirits 15s Rough ... per cwt d p 8 3 8 6

Wool—English—Per pack of 240 lb Fleeces, So. Down hogs 14s 0d 14 10s

Tobacco duty 5s per lb s d s d Maryland, per lb, bond ... 0 6 0 0

Turpentine duty For Spirits 15s Rough ... per cwt d p 8 3 8 6

Wool—English—Per pack of 240 lb Fleeces, So. Down hogs 14s 0d 14 10s

Tobacco duty 5s per lb s d s d Maryland, per lb, bond ... 0 6 0 0

Turpentine duty For Spirits 15s Rough ... per cwt d p 8 3 8 6

Wool—English—Per pack of 240 lb Fleeces, So. Down hogs 14s 0d 14 10s

Tobacco duty 5s per lb s d s d Maryland, per lb, bond ... 0 6 0 0

Turpentine duty For Spirits 15s Rough ... per cwt d p 8 3 8 6

Wool—English—Per pack of 240 lb Fleeces, So. Down hogs 14s 0d 14 10s

STATEMENT

Of comparative Imports, Exports, and Home Consumption of the following articles from Jan. 1 to April 12, 1850-1, showing the stock on hand on April 12 in each year. FOR THE PORT OF LONDON.

East and West Indian Produce, &c.

Table with columns: Imported, Duty paid, Stock. Rows include British Plantation (West India, East India, Mauritius, Foreign), Foreign Sugar (Cheribon, Siam, & Manilla, Havana, Porto Rico, Brazil).

PRICE OF SUGARS.—The average prices of Brown or Muscovado Sugar, exclusive of the duties:— From the British Possessions in America, Mauritius, East Indies.

MOLASSES.— Imported, Duty paid, Stock. West India.

RUM.— Imported, Exported, Home Consump., Stock. West India, East India, Foreign.

COCOA.—Cwts. Br. Plant., Foreign.

COFFEE.—Cwts. Br. Plant., Ceylon, Total BP., Mocha, Foreign EI., Malabar, St Domingo, Hav. & P Ric, Brazil, African, Total For., Grand tot.

RICE. British EI., Foreign EI., Total.

PEPPER. White, Black.

NUTMEGS. Do. Wild.

CAS. LIG. CINNAMON. PIMENTO.

Raw Materials, Dye Stuffs, &c.

COCHINEAL. LAC DYE. Logwood. FUSTIC.

INDIGO. East India. Spanish.

SALTPETRE. Nitrate of Potas. Nitrate of Soda.

COTTON. American, Brazil, East India, Liverpool, all kinds, Total.

The Railway Monitor.

EPITOME OF RAILWAY NEWS.

GREAT WESTERN, AND SOUTH WALES.—On Tuesday simultaneous meetings of these companies were held to consider the new agreement. The Great Western shareholders adopted it unanimously.

RAILWAY CAPITAL.—The total amount raised by railway companies up to the end of 1849, as seen by a return just published, was 229,747,779l 15s 8d, of which 178,412,625l 6s 7d was raised by shares, and 51,335,154l 9s 1d by loans.

EASTERN COUNTIES.—A special meeting of this company was held on Thursday at the London Tavern to consider, and, if approved, to authorise the directors to carry into full effect, an agreement with the Newmarket Railway Company for working the railway in conjunction with that of the Eastern Counties Company.

RAILWAY SHARE MARKET. LONDON.

MONDAY, April 14.—The railway market was firmer towards the close of business, a decrease during the day in the rates of continuation, together with an improvement in the funds, co-operating to produce greater confidence among the speculators.

TUESDAY April 15.—The railway market opened with a buoyant appearance, and the arrangement of the account was continued, but prices experienced a slight reaction towards the close of business.

WEDNESDAY, April 16.—No particular movement took place in the railway market during the morning, but towards the termination of business prices were generally stronger.

THURSDAY, April 17.—The railway market was firmer to-day, and prices in some cases improved. Business, however, was not extensive, and speculation appears to have considerably diminished.

MISCELLANEOUS.

STATISTICS OF PAUPER CHILDREN.—By a return just issued, it appears that the total number of children in all the workhouses in England and Wales on the 25th of March, 1850, was 50,189—27,351 boys and 22,838 girls.

BALLOTING MACHINE.—Mr Chamberlin, of St Leonard's, has lately patented a machine so simple and effectual that electors may record their votes with great expedition, and without the possibility of anyone knowing for whom they vote.

THE NATIONAL DEBT.—The Lord Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury having certified to the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt, in pursuance of the act 10th George IV., c. 27, sec. 1, that the actual surplus revenue of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, beyond the actual expenditure thereof for the year ending the 5th day of January, 1851, amounted to the sum of 2,578,806l 3s 3d.

TRAFFIC WITH THE CONTINENT.—The annexed statistics have been furnished of the aggregate passenger traffic to and from England at the various continental ports in 1850. The total has increased from 155,990 passengers in 1847 to 186,172 in the past year.

Table with columns: Port, Number of passengers, Percentage of the total traffic. Rows include Boulogne, Calais, Ostend, Havre, Antwerp, Dieppe, Dunkirk, Total.

The Economist's Railway Share List.

The highest prices of the day are given.

Table with multiple columns: No. of shares, Amount of shares, Amount paid up, Name of Company, London (M. T.), and various railway names under three main categories: ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS, PREFERENCE SHARES, and LINES LEASED AT FIXED RENTALS.

OFFICIAL RAILWAY TRAFFIC RETURNS.

Table with columns: Capital and Loan, Amount expended per last Report, Average cost per mile, Dividend per cent. per annum on paid-up capital (1847, 1848, 1849, 1850), Name of Railway, Week ending, Receipts (Passengers, Merchandise, Total receipts), Same week 1850, Miles open in 1851, 1850.

THE ECONOMIST

Can be forwarded, by packet FREE OF POSTAGE, to the following British Colonies and Foreign Countries, viz.:-

Table listing destinations such as Aden, Antigua, Bahama, Barbadoes, Berbice, Bermuda, Canada, Carriacow, Demerara, Dominica, Gibraltar, Grenada, Halifax, Heligoland, Honduras, Ionian Islands, India via Southampton, Jamaica, Cuxhaven, Bremen, Buenos Ayres, Denmark, Greece, Hamburg, Hayti or St Domingo, Lubec, New Grenada, Peru, Spain, Venezuela, and Trinidad.

Postage of Foreign and Colonial Letters. (FROM THE DAILY PACKET LIST.)

Single Rate of Postage upon Foreign and Colonial Letters when conveyed by packet.

a Signifies that the postage must be paid in advance. b Denotes that the rate includes British and Foreign postage combined.

\* In all cases where a Letter is not specially directed to be sent by any particular route, the rate of postage first mentioned is chargeable.

Large table of postage rates for various locations including Aden, Alexandria, Algeria, Austrian dominions, Azores, Baden, Bavaria, Belgium, Belgrade, Berbice, Bermuda, Beyrout, Bolivia, Brazil, Bremen, Brunswick, Buenos Ayres, California, Cape of Good Hope, Cape Verde Islands, Canada, Canary Islands, Ceylon, Chili, China, Constantinoe, Cracow, Cuba, Curacao, Cuxhaven, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, France, Frankfurt, Galatz, Galicia, Gibraltar, Greece, Grey Town, Hamburg, Hanover, Heligoland, Hesse, Holland, Honduras, Hong Kong, India, Ionian Islands, Jamaica, Jassy, Java, Lippe Detmold, Lubeck, Lucca, Madeira, Majorca, Malta, Mauritius, Mecklenburg Strelitz, Mecklenburg Schwerin, Meiningen, Mexico, Minorca, Modena, Moldavia, Naples, Nassau, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, New Granada, Norway, Nova Scotia, Oldenburg, Oregon, Papal States, Penang, Peru, Parma, Placentia, Poland, Portugal, Prince Edward Island, Prussia, Reuss, Russia, Salonica, Sardinia, Saxony, Saxo Altenberg, Saxo Coburg Gotha, Sicily, Sierra Leone, Silesia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Tuscany, United States, Venezuela, Wallachia, West Indies, Western Coast of South America, Wurtemberg.

Table with columns for 'under', 'not exc.', and 'oz' for various destinations like Hanover, Heligoland, Holland, Honduras, Hong Kong, India, Ionian Islands, Jamaica, Jassy, Java, Lippe Detmold, Lubeck, Lucca, Madeira, Majorca, Malta, Mauritius, Mecklenburg Strelitz, Mecklenburg Schwerin, Meiningen, Mexico, Minorca, Modena, Moldavia, Naples, Nassau, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, New Granada, Norway, Nova Scotia, Oldenburg, Oregon, Papal States, Penang, Peru, Parma, Placentia, Poland, Portugal, Prince Edward Island, Prussia, Reuss, Russia, Salonica, Sardinia, Saxony, Saxo Altenberg, Saxo Coburg Gotha, Sicily, Sierra Leone, Silesia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Tuscany, United States, Venezuela, Wallachia, West Indies, Western Coast of South America, Wurtemberg.

Table with columns for 'under', 'not exc.', and 'oz' for various destinations like Saxony, Schaumburgh Lippe, Schwartzzenburgh Rudolstadt, Schwartzzenburgh Sonderhausen, Scutari, Sicily, Sierra Leone, Silesia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Tuscany, United States, Venezuela, Wallachia, West Indies, Western Coast of South America, Wurtemberg.

KINGSTON ON THAMES.—To be Let Furnished, an eight-roomed HOUSE, semi-detached, with a large garden, chaise-house, and stable, for six or 12 months, at a moderate rent. It is ten minutes' walk from the station, and a mile from Hampton Court. Address, prepaid, to B. W., Mr FRASER'S, baker, Kingston New Town, Surrey.

GREAT INDIAN PENINSULA RAILWAY COMPANY. THIRD HALF-YEARLY GENERAL MEETING. Notice is hereby given, that the Third Half-Yearly General Meeting of the Proprietors in this Company will be held at the offices of the Company, 3 New Broad street, London, on Wednesday the 3th of April, 1851, at 12 o'clock at noon precisely, for the general business of the Company pursuant to the Act. (Signed) WHARNCLIFFE, Chairman.

CORNELIUS NICHOLSON, Superintending Director. 2 New Broad street, London, April 8, 1851. \* \* The books for the Registration of Shares will be closed from Thursday the 17th to Wednesday the 30th of April, inclusive.

H. J. AND D. NICOLL, MERCHANT CLOTHIERS. PALETOT PATENTEES, Manufacturers of Cloth, and Inventors of the REGISTERED GUINEA TROUSERS. The latter, like those popular garments, the ONE and TWO GUINEA REGISTERED PALETOTS, and 25s Morning Coats, will also exhibit much economy and improvement, style, comfort, and durability. London—only in Regent street, from 114 to 120 (inclusive), or 22 Cornhill. Agents in all parts of the country.

1851 EXHIBITION. NOVELTIES IN COSTUME secured by ROYAL LETTERS PATENT, and by HER MAJESTY'S COMMISSIONERS insured a space in the GREAT EXHIBITION, by Special Grant to the Patentees.—The Materials, as well as the Garments, are quite novel, and adapted for general purposes. The manufacture of the material, and the mode of fashioning the same into a new style of garments, are both patented, and the title of BISUNIQUE has been chosen to distinguish them. Their surpassing beauty, elegance, utility, and economy, can only be appreciated by actual inspection. They are undoubtedly the greatest novelties extant in garments, adapted for ladies, gentlemen, and youths. Parties desirous of becoming Agents, can apply to S. POWELL and CO., the Sole Patentees, at the Bisunique Depot, where every description of garment may be seen. 52 REGENT STREET, PICCADILLY, LONDON. Merchants and Shippers supplied.

**DENT'S IMPROVED WATCHES**  
and CLOCKS.—E. J. DENT, watch and clock maker by distinct appointment to the Queen, H.R.H. Prince Albert, H.L.M. the Emperor of Russia, most respectfully solicits from the public an inspection of his extensive STOCK of WATCHES and CLOCKS, embracing all the late modern improvements, at the most economical charges. Ladies' gold watches, with gold dials, jewelled in four holes, 8 guineas. Gentlemen's with enamelled dials, 10 guineas. Youths' silver watches, 4 guineas. Warranted substantial and accurate going lever watches, jewelled in four holes, 6 guineas. E. J. DENT, 82 Strand, 33 Cockspur street, and 34 Royal Exchange (Clock Tower Area).

**SOYER'S UNIVERSAL SYMPOSIUM, GORE HOUSE, Kensington,** the residence of the late Countess of Blessington.—This magnificent and unique establishment is rapidly progressing towards completion, and will be opened to the public at the latter end of the month. A description of the interior and exterior, and a comprehensive scale of prices, will shortly be issued. Season tickets for admission to view Soyer's Universal Symposium will be issued in a few days. Single season Ticket, one guinea; Double Ticket, 1½ guineas; Family Ticket, admitting four, three guineas. None of which are transferable. The season tickets will be procurable at Mr Mitchell's, Bond street; Mr Sam's, Pall mall; and at all the principal libraries and music warehouses.

NOT SOLD BY ANY HOSIERS OR DRAPERS.  
**FORD'S EUREKA SHIRTS** are not sold by any Hosiery or Drapers, and can therefore be obtained only at 185 STRAND, LONDON. They are made in two qualities, the first of which is 40s the half-dozen, and the second 30s the half-dozen. Also, Ford's Eureka Shirt Collars; possessing an improved method of fastening, which entirely dispenses with the use of Strings, Loops, or Elastic Contrivances. It also adapts itself to any size, and is suitable for once or twice round cravats. They may be had in three different sizes, and either rounded or pointed. Price 8s 6d and 11s 6d per dozen; two of the best quality as samples sent post free, on receipt of 2s postage stamps. List of prices with direction for self-measurement sent post free. R. FORD, 185 STRAND.

**THE FERNS HYDROPATHIC ESTABLISHMENT,** Alderley Edge, Wilmslow, Cheshire.—Resident Physician, HOWARD JOHNSON, M.D. Situated on the London and North-Western Railway, and ten minutes' walk from the Alderley station. Just Published, "THE TREATMENT OF INCURABLE DISEASES." By HOWARD JOHNSON, M.D. Large 8vo. cloth, price 4s. Also, by the same Author, "RESEARCHES into the EFFETS OF COLD WATER upon the Healthy Body, to illustrate its Action in Disease." Large 8vo. cloth, price 4s 6d. Longman and Co., London.

**MESSRS JESSE HOBSON AND SON,** WINE MERCHANTS, &c., 45 LEADENHALL STREET, beg to announce that the price of their superior Choice OLD PALE and GOLDEN SHERRIES is fixed at 30s per dozen; and they respectfully invite the attention of their numerous friends and the public to the full flavour, great age, and good body of the Sherries, the Wines being the produce of the finest ground of Xerez de la Frontiera. Agents for Bass's East India Pale Ale in casks and bottles for home use and exportation.

**BOTTLED ALES, STOUT, &c.**—Messrs HOLMES and ZOHRAH, having made arrangements with Messrs James Thorne and Co., of the Westminster Brewery, for the exclusive bottling of their celebrated ales and stout for exportation, are now prepared to execute orders on the most liberal terms, and to any extent, for beer, in proper condition, which they can guarantee will bear any voyage or climate. Messrs Holmes and Zohrah have warehouses for their beer at Carpenter and Smith's wharf, Toley street, and will receive and attend to any orders at 2 Fen court, Fenchurch street. List of prices can be had on application either personally or by letter.

**DAMP PAINTS—NEW ELASTIC PAINT,** an effectual remedy inside or out; will dry in a few hours, and may be immediately papered over if desired. PATENT MINERAL PAINTS, invaluable for cheapness, beauty, and permanence; ready for use; will stand any climate, and well calculated for exportation. PATENT LIQUID CEMENT, ready for use on the Fronts of Houses; only one-eighth the cost of Oil Paint; for beauty pre-eminant, giving the appearance of fine-cut stone. In casks of 1 cwt., 2 cwt., and 3 cwt., at 8s, 15s, and 21s each. Casks returned. G. BELL and Co., Steam Mills, 2 Wellington street, Goswell street, London.

**CHEAP, LIGHT, AND DURABLE ROOFING.** CROGGON'S PATENT ASPHALTE ROOFING FELT has been extensively used and pronounced efficient, and particularly applicable for warm climates. 1st. It is a non-conductor. 2nd. It is portable, being packed in rolls, and not liable to damage in carriage. 3rd. It effects a saving of half the timber usually required. 4th. It can be easily applied by any unpractised person. 5th. From its lightness, weighing only about 42 lbs to the square of 100 feet, the cost of carriage is small. INODOROUS FELT, for damp walls and for damp floors, under carpets and floor cloths. PRICE ONE PENNY PER SQUARE FOOT. CROGGON and CO.'S PATENT FELTED SHEATHING for Covering Ships' Bottoms, &c., and DRY HAIR FELT for Covering Steam Boilers, Pipes, &c., preventing the radiation of Heat, and saving 25 per cent of Fuel. Samples, testimonials, and full instructions, on application to CROGGON and CO., 2 Dowgate hill, London.

**THE WANDLE WATER AND SEWERAGE COMPANY,** for the supply of the metropolitan districts South of the Thames, at constant and high service. Capital, £300,000 in £30,000 Shares of £10 each. Deposit, 12s 6d per Share, of which 7s will be returned in the event of an Act not being obtained in the present Session of Parliament. All the requisites of the standing orders have been complied with.

TRUSTEES.  
Joseph Somes, Esq., of Blackwall, Shipowner.  
George Stone, Esq., of Lombard street, Banker.  
DIRECTORS.  
Samuel Whitfield Daukes, Esq., 14 Whitehall place.  
Edward Esdaile, Esq., City Saw Mills, Regent's Canal.  
John Lawrence, Esq., H. E. L. C. S., 15 Regent street.  
John Macgregor, Esq., M.P., No. 1 Princes terrace, Hyde park.  
Charles Reynolds, Esq., Wallington Lodge, Carshariton, Surrey.  
Thomas Robinson, Esq., Bernard street, Russell square.  
John Perry Williams, York street, St. James's square; and Abercrombais, Brecon; Thomas Wilson, Esq., York terrace, Queen's road, Peckham, Surrey.  
ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR.—F. P. Thompson, Esq., Water Works Chambers, Orange street, Trafalgar square.  
CONSULTING ENGINEERS.—Messrs Easton and Amos, Grove, Southwark.  
BANKERS.—Messrs Martin, Stone, and Martin, Lombard street.  
SECRETARY.—William Holloway, Esq., 15 Tokenhouse yard, Lothbury, City.  
SOLICITORS.—Messrs. Mullins and Paddison.

The objects of this Company are chiefly—To supply the Inhabitants SOUTH OF THAMES, with a cheap, abundant, and CONSTANT SUPPLY of pure and wholesome WATER. The plan proposed to be adopted is to let the Wandle perform all its functions to the Mills, as at present, without altering or diverting the course of its waters, or feeders, in any part; to remove and exclude all impurities, by means of a complete system of intercepting sewers and drains, extending from the neighbourhood of the springs at its source, to the Thames at Wandsworth; and to take the water, in its unpolluted state, at Wandsworth, after it has done its work for the Mills, and raise it to Reservoirs on Wimbledon Common, nearly 160 feet above Trinity high-water mark. A sufficient elevation being thus obtained to give HIGH SERVICE to any building in the districts to be supplied. After payment of the deposit, no call will be made unless an Act be obtained in the present Session of Parliament; and in the event of the Act not being then obtained, 7s per share will be returned to the Shareholders. Application for shares to be made to Messrs SHREFFARD and SONS, 28 Threadneedle street, City, where the Plans may be seen, and detailed information obtained; and also to the Secretary, at the Offices of the Company, No. 15 Tokenhouse yard, Lothbury.

**£550,000.—ALL THE MOST** stupendous projects of this, and any age owe their birth and maintenance to capital. Where there is only limited capital, man's best schemes are stultified, and cannot develop any maturity of growth. A cessation of capital would result in a commercial paralysis, and a disorganisation of the social system would necessarily follow. Capital is the creative power which sets in motion the machinery of the mercantile world; and when properly employed and regulated, is productive of mighty results.

In no country is the power of capital more prominently brought to view than Britain, where its wonderful effects are everywhere apparent. The innumerable interpositions of railways, the launching of enormous vessels, the erection of vast factories and other giant projects, may be cited as triumphant instances of the power of British capital.

Perhaps there was never an age in which the agency of capital was so abundantly employed as the present; and, without query, there certainly never existed such vast profits of its workings. The last quarter of a century (which has happily been a period of comparative peace to England) has witnessed an investiture of capital in trade never before known, and the result is gloriously manifest.

It is the pride of HYAM and Co. to know that they have applied their capital to so essential a purpose; and it is their satisfaction further to know that capital thus employed has been productive of such astonishing results. The amount quoted at the heading of this advertisement is an accurate quotation of the sum total which HYAM and Co. annually employ in carrying on their various and vast establishments in the principal towns of the three kingdoms. The proprietors do not publish this with a view of astounding, or falsely captivating; but they make it known as a trading statistic—a fact not to be controverted.

The employment of five hundred and fifty thousand pounds as capital must, of necessity, operate in favour of the public. Such an enormous capital brings the markets within the command of the proprietors. The largest capitalists and the largest buyers in the world are HYAM and Co., and when the reader takes into consideration the various channels through which this immense amount is circulated, he will not, for a moment, question the statement. The capital of HYAM and Co. has planted vast Tailoring Emporiums in all the first towns of the kingdom (as seen in the subjoined list), and has given employment for 25 years to thousands of artisans.

It need scarcely be stated that this capital is expended, not only in buying favourably the best specimens of materials, but in securing the best artists and work for the purposes of manufacture. This is evident in the present spring stock, and let it be understood that quality and cheapness are "inculcated" at the various establishments of HYAM and Co., the current capital of which amounts annually to £550,000.

**HYAM AND CO., TAILORS, CLOTHIERS, AND MANUFACTURERS.**  
West-end Establishment . . . . . 86 Oxford street.  
City Establishment . . . . . 36 Gracechurch street.  
Provincial Establishments of Hyam and Co. are—  
Manchester—55 King street  
Hull—17 Market place  
Manchester—26 Market st.  
Bristol—42 Wine street  
Liverpool—63 & 65 Lord st.  
Birmingham—48 Argyll street  
Birmingham—29 New street.  
Leeds—42 Briggate

**GUTTA PERCHA COMPANY,** Patented, 18 Wharf road, City road, London. GUTTA PERCHA TUBING.

Amongst the peculiar properties possessed by this Tubing, which render it an article of great value not only to manufacturers, but to the public generally, are the following:—

- Lightness, combined with remarkable strength, (a 3/4-inch tube having resisted a pressure of 307 lbs on the square inch.)
  - Non-affection by the carbonic, acetic, hydrofluoric, or muriatic acids, or by the most caustic alkalies. This remarkable property renders Gutta Percha so valuable for the conveyance of water, lining of cisterns, &c., being free from the deleterious effects to health resulting from the use of lead for those purposes.
  - Peculiar power of resisting frost.
  - Readiness with which it can be connected (by means of the Gutta Percha Union Joints) with the water-tap or pump, and used for watering gardens, washing windows, carriages, &c.
  - Great lengths in which it can be made (50 to 500 feet) without a joint.
  - Ease with which the requisite joints can be made.
  - Facility with which it can be cut open, and again repaired, in case of stoppage.
  - Extraordinary power of conducting sound.
- APPLICATIONS OF GUTTA PERCHA TUBING.  
The conveyance of Water, Oil, Acids, Gas, and other Chemicals, Liquid Manures, &c.; Drain and Soil Pipes; Section Pipes for Fire Engines; Pump Barrels and Feeding Pipes; Syphons; for Watering Gardens, Streets, Washing Windows, &c.; Ventilation of Mines, &c.; Ships Pumps, &c.; Ear and Mouth Trumpets; Speaking Tubes in lieu of Bells, &c.

**ANTAGONISTIC TO SOPHISTRY, PREJUDICE, AND EMPIRICISM.**

147 Woodcuts, 41 Cases, 2 vols. Is each, by post 1s 6d.  
**ON SINGLE AND MARRIED LIFE.**  
"To be, or not to be, that is the question."  
By R. J. CULVERWELL, M.D. (1841), M.R.C.S. (1827), L.A.C. (1824); 25 years Medical and Forensic Referee in these matters.

Programme:—Advent of Puberty and corresponding Associations—Duties and Casualties of Single Life—Marriage and its considerations—Happy and Fruitful Adulthood, mode of securing them—Infelicitous and Infertile ones, their obviation and removal. Sherwood, 25 Paternoster row; Mann, 39 Cornhill; Carvalho, 147 Fleet street; and all booksellers; or by post, from the Author, 10 Argyll place, Regent street. At home daily, 10 till 5; evening, 7 till 9.

16th SALE. Custom House, London, April, 1851.

**FOR SALE, BY ORDER OF THE**

Honourable the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Customs, at the COMMERCIAL SALE ROOMS, Mining Lane, on Monday, 28th, Tuesday, 29th, Wednesday, 30th April, Thursday, 1st, and on Friday, 2nd May, 1851, at Twelve o'clock at noon precisely, the following GOODS for Home Consumption, viz.—Agate seal pieces, &c., artificial flowers, amber ornaments, &c., baskets, Berlin embroidery, Berlin iron ware, bellows, books, box-tops, boxes, brass, jewel, lucifer, snuff, wafer, work and ornamental; bronze figures, ornaments, vases, &c.; brandy, brusch pieces; brushes, nail, shaving, tooth, clothes, &c.; buttons, porcelain, cabinets, magnetic, crayons, &c.; cameos, coral handkerchiefs, candlebricks, canvas for embroidery, China silk; China ware bowls, cups and saucers, garden seats, jars, plates, turquoise, &c.; clocks, bronze, antique, carriage, ornubul, inlaid, marble, &c.; Cologne water, combs, cox's knives and apparatus, cotton hose, gloves, &c.; curtains, embroidered, dolls, jointed; embroidery, viz.: waistcoat pieces, scarfs, robes or dress pieces, muslin, &c.; enamels, earthenware, ornamented, &c.; frames for pictures, furniture, carved, inlaid, and magnetic, gloves, gobshies, elastic, gelatine, Geneva, gilt bordering, glove bands, gutta percha sheathing, hair pencils, inkstands, Indian rubber mill bands; jewellery, viz. bracelets, bracelet slides, brooches, buckles, caskets, chains, charms, earrings, necklaces, pins, rings, seals, studs, stones, imitation, &c.; lamps, brass, glass, porcelain, &c.; lanterns, Chinese, &c.; lace, silk and hair, lacquered cabinets; musical instruments, viz. accordions, horns, flutes, flutinas, guitars, harmoniums, violins, violoncellos, &c.; marbles, matting, E. I. microscopes, &c.; opera glasses, paper labels or tickets, portfolios, paper weights, pencils, lead, slate, &c.; porte-monnais, &c.; porcelain, Dresden and French, pipes, bowls, tubes, &c.; purses, prints, rum, segars, segar cases and tubes; shawls, wove, woollen, printed barege, silk ditto; shoe lifts, scissors, spindles, spirits, plain and mixed, stays; silk manufactures, viz. barege, canvas, lasting, laces; China crapes, shawls, &c.; straw, twist, plating, &c.; sugar, tea, tobacco, toilet boxes, ornaments, &c.; toys, &c.; tables, inlaid, &c.; turquoises, veneers, inlaid, &c.; waistcoating, wove and embroidered, watches, gold and silver, watch, &c. springs, watch making instruments, wine, woveen taps, wire, plated, &c.; and various other goods.

For exportation, or for home consumption, on payment of the duties:—Books, bottles, coffee, Cologne water, confectionary, cocoa, candles, mangoes, paper, pepper, spirits, silk manufactures, sugar, shawls, succades, tamarinds, tea, wine, &c., &c.

For exportation only: Books, prints, millinery, &c., playing cards, spirits, watches, &c., &c.

For the benefit of the Crown:—Iron guns, cutlasses, telescopes, spirits, wine, &c.

The above goods may be viewed at the Queen's Warehouse, Custom House, Thames street; at the London, the St Katherine's, the West India, and the East India Docks; and at the Tobacco Ground, Rotherhithe, on Thursday, the 24th, Friday, the 25th, and Saturday, the 26th, of April, 1851, from ten o'clock in the morning until three o'clock in the afternoon, and on the days of sale from ten o'clock in the morning until twelve o'clock at noon.

Take notice, that goods sold at this sale will not be delivered until after two clear days of the day on which they are sold, and that no bids can be paid for at the office of the Receiver of Fines, after two o'clock in the afternoon, and that on the days of sale money will not be received by the Receiver of Fines after eleven o'clock in the forenoon.

Catalogues may be had at the Queen's Warehouse, Custom House, Thames street, price one shilling each.

