

THE EXAMINER.

No. 2,720.]

SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 1860.

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THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

If I might give a short hint to an impartial writer it would be to tell him his fate. If he resolved to venture upon the dangerous precipice of telling unbiassed truth let him proclaim war with mankind—neither to give nor to take quarter. If he tells the crimes of great men they fall upon him with the iron hands of the law; if he tells them of virtues, when they have any, then the mob attacks him with slander. But if he regards truth, let him expect martyrdom on both sides, and then he may go on fearless; and this is the course I take myself.—Dr Fox.

THE UPSHOT OF OPPOSITION ARGUMENTS.

What a Government is this! How it burns the candle at both ends. How it ruins us abroad and at home. What a glutton it is of perdition. How greedy of dirt. How insatiate of dishonour and calamity. Lord John Russell's part is to play the cat's-paw to French ambition, while Mr Gladstone makes ducks and drakes of revenue; lets out coal and lets in wine, opening the flood-gates of inebriety. But both Ministers tend to the same end, which is to bring the country to the pass of submitting to peace at any price, Mr Bright being at the bottom of all. Lord John Russell, under the pretence of favouring Italian independence, has, in fact, been stealthily and steadily promoting the design of the French Emperor to possess himself of Nice and Savoy. He has preached against the annexation it is true, but only in such sort as rather to stimulate the appetite for it, as the old fox in the fable makes his sons' mouths water by a lecture against gluttony, or as the cavalier of the poet provokes the caper that he seems to chide. If he had been in earnest, would he have been satisfied with showing the French Emperor that it would hurt him to alarm the jealousies of Europe? Would he not have set about forming a confederacy against France, to which, of course, France would have patiently submitted, her peculiar condition being this, that without Nice and Savoy she will not think of war, but with those vast accessions of strength, amounting to little more than half a million of the worst population in Europe, she will never think of anything else. And while our foreign policy makes France again the danger of Europe, our financial policy is aimed at putting us in such a state that in no conceivable circumstances shall we be able to go to war. Thus our Customs' duties are now confined to a few articles, and will not long be maintained upon them, the same argument applying to them which was used to sweep away the smaller imposts—that trade will be promoted by their abolition. One after another the duties will be done away with, the weaker going first to the wall, till no indirect taxation remaining, the whole revenue will be raised by a property-tax, that the word of Bright may be fulfilled. Such is the frightful financial revolution clearly foreseen and prefigured by that long-sighted political seer, Mr Horsman. When our finances are brought into a state making war impossible, the military and naval establishments will of course be voted useless, and abolished altogether. Whether the Church and Monarchy will long survive is a question which every one gifted with ordinary sagacity can answer for himself. And see how everything is made to conduce to the same end. Tea and sugar, not only the poor man's comforts, but the great allies of sobriety, had their claims to reduction, being war taxes. Now why are war taxes maintained in time of peace? To anticipate the resource, so that it may not be at all available upon occasion for war. So tea and sugar remain taxed while paper is released from duty. Tea and sugar, as we have said, are the great allies of sobriety, but to have promoted the use of them would have militated against the consumption of French wines and brandy, which is Mr Gladstone's darling object. The preference was therefore given to paper, which, manifold as are its uses, people cannot very conveniently convert to a diet. So the poor man is told that if he buys his little packets of tea and sugar at the war price, the paper in which they are wrapped is free of duty for the advantage of the grocer. All this concurs in the general drift of the revolutionary policy. The poor are inflamed against the rich, the cheapening of whose luxuries is preferred to that of their necessities, and a state of feeling is prepared which will have most dangerous vent whenever distress falls upon the masses of the people. The cheap press will not fail to make the most of such an opportunity of forwarding the work of revolution, and the assimilation of our institutions to those of the United States, and the cheap press will be the better enabled to compass this design by the removal of the duty which now weighs upon it. Is it not clear as the sun at noonday that Mr Bright is the prompter of this most consistent scheme for the overthrow of the monarchy and ruin of the nation?

So far we have really, without exaggeration, stated the views and arguments of the gentlemen on the Speaker's

left. But now let us ask, how is it that we have not an Opposition capable of arresting this nefarious design? How is it that we have an Opposition which can do no more than denounce and predict, wail and rail? A bad Government cannot exist and have its way without a worse Opposition. And the misfortune in the present case is, that we have oppositions too many and too conflicting. The many cooks spoil the broth. Mr Horsman takes the wind out of Mr D'Israeli's sail; Mr S. Fitzgerald occupies a battle ground that his chief surrenders as untenable; Mr Whiteside commends what Mr D'Israeli most pointedly blames. There is certainly no Bright in that camp to give aim and concentration to all the manoeuvres.

Thinking well of and wishing well to the Ministry, we are not content to see it exempt from the wholesome check of a well-ordered Opposition. It is not good for a Government, however well disposed, to have confronting it men who really do more for it than its followers. Such a state of things tends to relax the care of a Government, and to generate a false confidence sure to have some unfortunate result. And if this be Mr D'Israeli's deep cunning game, he is playing it well, powerfully assisted as he is by Mr Horsman, of whom we expected a very different part.

THE DEBATE IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

Lords Grey and Overstone are both men of great ability, with this peculiarity of judgment in common, that upon any question that arises they are as likely to be wrong as right, and that when wrong their very powers put them more in the wrong than less gifted persons could contrive to be. They are, indeed, like locomotives, which when they run off the line bury themselves. Both these noblemen have taken a strong line of opposition to the Budget and Treaty of Commerce. Lord Overstone cannot be reconciled to the abandonment of any source of revenue, and thinks the Customs might have been increased to 30,000%. He is a man of the one idea, money; and the more or less settles every question in his judgment. Lord Grey loves free trade to such excess that he will not consent to the extension of trade by any means not accordant with the etiquette of free trade. His quarrel is about the way, a thing which he prefers to the end. He has the most insuperable objection to taking a step backward in order to make a spring forward. The Treaty is in his eyes the fly in the pot of ointment. And he is of opinion that the Savoy question was an excellent opportunity of breaking off the negotiations, or of making the Emperor's abandonment of his claim on his neighbour's territory the *sine qua non* of the Treaty. A prettier ground of quarrel than this could hardly be laid, for Napoleon III is not the man to be balked in a favourite design without finding some mode of making his resentment felt. The Treaty of Commerce so inaugurated would have had no peace in it; but what cares the Roebuck of the Lords for that mean consideration.

Lord Derby has very nearly spoken the truth about the Budget. The Duke of Argyll having referred to the divisions in the Commons as follows:

After all, who were the best judges of the character of the bargain? Had Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, Sheffield, or any other manufacturing town objected to the treaty? Such a pressure had been brought to bear by the constituencies on their representatives in Parliament that this measure had not been carried by any mere party strength of the Government, but by a very large adhesion from those who were ordinarily their political enemies. It was no party victory, but the noblest triumph which could attend the measures of a Government. He would not conceal that Ministers had entered Parliament at the commencement of the present session with the prospect of no very great Parliamentary strength; they were obliged to depend, not on party organisation, but on the character of the measures which they might produce. And so powerful had been the effect of those measures on the public mind, so rapidly had they gained acceptance in all the great centres of our commercial industry, that the treaty, and every portion of the financial scheme, so far as it had yet been considered, had been carried by majorities unprecedented in our recent Parliamentary annals.

Upon this Lord Derby observed:

I don't grudge to the noble Duke the little song of triumph in which he has indulged on the large majorities which have supported her Majesty's Government on questions connected with this treaty in the present session; nor will I trouble myself to inquire to what causes those large majorities are to be ascribed—whether to general concurrence in the financial measures of her Majesty's Government, to the general confidence reposed in the united counsels of her Majesty's Ministers, or whether they are to be attributed in some degree to the skill and ability with which the various baits have been thrown out to various specific interests affected by the provisions of the treaty, and which, for the sake of obtaining advantages for themselves, have been inclined to look with a favourable eye on the remaining details of the measure.

Substitute advantages for "baits," and this is really the true explanation of the success of the Budget, and it is virtually a confession of the great preponderance of good in the measure, reconciling to it interests alarmed by particular provisions, but finding their account in supporting it on the whole. We have all something to object to, the Income-tax, for example, is hateful to all, but as a set-off against it is a large balance of benefit, especially to two interests—the interests of the great industrial body and of the public at large.

FOREIGN POLICY OF THE OPPOSITION.

Conservatism has long been in search of a policy, like Cœlebs in search of a wife, and if the bachelor in the novel had ultimately wedded a vixen or a fury, his luck or his fate would have closely resembled that of the Opposition. It fell to Mr Seymour Fitzgerald's lot last week to present "the fire-eye'd maid of smoking war" to the country as the choice of his party before all nymphs. We hope the English public, no bad judges of beauty, are smitten as we are with the Conservative Miss Tisiphone. They are invited to bask in her frowns, and dally with her snakes, or write sonnets to them.

When in domestic life servants advertise for situations, they invariably describe themselves as the quietest people in the world, and if a man has a wife whom he wishes to take with him, he is sure to expatiate on her good temper and peaceable behaviour; but public servants have another way of recommending themselves to place; here is a party that sets forth its pugnacious dispositions, and actually advertises its termagant spouse in the enchanting shape of a policy leading directly to the brink of war.

How well these expert anglers know how to bait the hook for place in this fire-eating country; how perfectly they understand the weak side of the people of England!

Yet after all the gunpowder talked, and fiery measures proposed in the debate on Mr Horsman's motion, it was denied on Tuesday last that the Opposition wanted a war about Savoy. Far be it from them to contemplate or propose war; they simply advocate measures between which and war only metaphysical subtlety could draw a line. God forbid they should dream of hostilities with France! All they want is that England bestir herself, despatch special envoys to the Courts of all the great Powers, and invoke them to join her in a great league against the French Emperor;—the most warlike of the party don't ask the Government to go a step further. And certainly there would be only one step further to go, and that a step which we should be forced to take, with all its risks and horrors, if we did not avoid it at the hazard of consistency and honour.

Indeed we could not follow the advice of Mr Seymour Fitzgerald and Mr Horsman without being prepared to fight France single-handed in this quarrel, for supposing the other Powers to be unmoved by our solicitations, how could a nation with the character that England has to sustain draw back herself, after proclaiming to Europe that she considered it a question for the sword? Mr D'Israeli was so sensible of this that it forced him into one of the broadest absurdities uttered in all the debate. In order to take the sting out of Mr Fitzgerald's "solemn protest," Mr D'Israeli explains that a protest is a mere form of words, a diplomatic ceremony implying in itself that the country, or the confederation protesting, has not the slightest notion of vouching words with deeds, in short, thinks the subject matter of the protest not worth fighting for. This is not a very original notion, for it is precisely that of our old friend Bottom, who when he is made sensible of the dreadful consequences of introducing "a lion among ladies," sagaciously provides that the lion shall state that "he is no such thing," but only "Snug the joiner." Indeed Mr D'Israeli borrows this pleasant absurdity to make it infinitely more extravagant; he wants us to bring on the stage of Europe a whole troop of lions, all roaring in concert that they mean no harm by their roaring.

When Bottom's lion appears and carries out his peaceable instructions, the compliment paid him by Theseus is exactly what Louis Napoleon would be likely to pay Mr D'Israeli's protest,—"a very gentle beast, and of good conscience." Now her Majesty's servants composing the present company have different notions of stage management. Whenever they resolve to produce a lion they will produce a real one, with the bite as well as the show of teeth, the claws as well as the roar, or a "solemn protest," beginning by protesting its own unmeaningness.

Lord John Russell has taken exactly the right course in a case which, not being a case for war, was therefore no case for proceedings closely approximating to a declaration of hostilities. The wise middle course was hit exactly in the policy of which Lord Palmerston thus clearly described the several steps:

It appears to me that we did on the whole pursue the course which was best adapted to the purpose which we had in view. We inquired of the French Government whether a certain intention was entertained, and we were told that it was abandoned. We knew that if it were resumed, and if the event upon which it hinged were to occur, the proper place for making our representations would be at the Congress at which it was to be settled. When it was apparent that no Congress was to meet, we communicated our strong objections to the French Government; and when we had done so, not endeavouring to array the other Powers of Europe in hostile confederacy against France, we informed them of our objections, and of the grounds on which they are founded. It is for them to determine whether they will state their objections to the Government of France, but that Government has announced its intention to consult them, and therefore they will be obliged in reply to state the views which they take of this subject. In our opinion it is a question of European interest. I cannot help thinking that the great Powers of Europe will take the same view of it as we do—a view devoid of passion, not tinctured by jealousy, not founded upon any feeling that can be offensive to France, or at which she can justly take umbrage, but a view

founded upon considerations of general European interest, which are of as much importance to France as to any of the other Powers concerned.

The drift of Mr D'Israeli's speech on Tuesday, as far as it had a drift, seems to have been to fasten on Lord John Russell the charge of having neglected the Savoy question, while his attention was concentrated on the interests of Italy.

It appears, then, that from the month of July until the end of January only one solitary despatch expressing the policy of the Government was written by the Foreign Secretary, although the noble lord was aware, or ought to have been aware, that if Sardinia were aggrandized by the annexation of the duchies and Tuscany, as a matter of course France would demand Savoy and Nice. With that information in his possession, the noble lord pursued a policy in Italy which greatly assisted the aggrandizement of Sardinia to that degree and in that manner which he knew would inevitably afford France a pretext for carrying out her policy with respect to the expansion of her present frontiers. That appears to me to be quite unanswerable; at any rate, it has not received an answer to-night, either from the Secretary of State or from the First Minister.

The English Government ought then, for the sake of Savoy, to have relaxed, nay ceased, its exertions in the Sardinian or the Italian cause. Our Minister was guilty of the proverbial folly of sacrificing a small object to accomplish a great one; and since this is the accusation, we are at no loss to know how the accusers would have acted had they been in power; they would have displayed the proverbial wisdom of sacrificing the great object for the little one. For the sake of defeating a petty annexation to France, adding nothing to her power in relation to this country, Mr D'Israeli would have opposed the great annexations to Sardinia, identified with the liberties of Italy. Suppose it true that Sardinian aggrandizement involved of necessity the extension of the French frontier, and that Lord John Russell had that connection of events before him in the clearest and most formal manner, ought he not to have acted just as he did? Of course he ought, and this is the answer to the charge which Mr D'Israeli calls unanswerable. What a strange friend to Italy the noble lord would have been, if he had abandoned the grand scheme of her liberation to prevent France from simultaneously carrying her little and even pitiful scheme of encroachment!

Perhaps the Emperor would not have been ill pleased to drop Savoy in exchange for the dropping on the other side of Tuscany and the Romagna; but in what light would Sardinia and all Italy have regarded the English Government had they pursued so wretched a policy? With respect to Sardinia, was it for us to take upon ourselves to elect for her between her possessions on one side of the Alps and her expectations on the other; and with respect to the Italian States, would it not have been even more unjustifiable had we withdrawn our support of their cause on the plea that France would reap a small profit from its triumph?

In truth the creation of a really powerful kingdom in Italy was of such transcendent importance, that the statesman would have exposed himself to no very heavy reproach who had made that object his aim, in contempt of much more serious inconveniences or drawbacks than the probability of a small territorial gain to France by the transaction. In a European point of view Tuscany would amply revenge Savoy, and the Romagna Nice.

But we have only been assuming for argument sake that the question of Savoy was slighted by our Government. On the contrary, they gave it their most earnest attention; they took the earliest occasion to remonstrate with France, they omitted no proper opportunity of repeating their remonstrances, and finally, they communicated them to all the Courts in Europe. Lord John Russell's conduct through all this delicate business has been a model of vigour tempered with prudence, as his despatches have been models of diplomatic eloquence and frank and fearless counsels. He has said and done everything that became an English Minister to say and do. He has not blustered or bullied, he has neither reviled the French Emperor like Mr Roebuck, nor intrigued against him in the fashion recommended by Mr Fitzgerald and Mr Horsman. None of those things would have become either the statesman himself, or the country whose honour is safe in his hands.

To the question asked by Mr Whiteside and others, "What steps have the Government taken to provide for the security of Switzerland in the event of this cession taking place," could any answer be more complete than Lord Palmerston's?

We have not taken any such steps, and I will tell the House why. Because, if you begin to talk about the modification of a measure which you want to prevent in its entirety, you weaken the ground upon which you stand. It will be time enough to talk of that when, if it ever happens, the cession shall become inevitable; and therefore I think it would not have been prudent to talk to France about the conditions on which the cession of Savoy should take place, so long as it was the opinion of the Government that events might occur which would prevent that annexation being carried into effect at all.

And Lord Palmerston proceeds to give the reasons that still induce him to hope that this ominous step may yet be averted.

On what grounds, then, can the Government, can this House entertain the opinion that that cession may not take place? In the first place, the French Emperor has stated that Savoy shall not be taken by force of arms; in the next, that it shall not be taken without the consent of its own sovereign and people; and again, that it shall not be taken without consulting the great Powers of Europe. And when you say "consulting the great Powers of Europe," it seems to me to follow as a natural consequence that it will not be taken without their assent. Well, then, if these conditions are laid down and adhered to—abstinence from force, the consent of the sovereign and people of Savoy, and the assent of the great Powers of Europe,—I think we are not yet come to that point at which we are justified in holding that reason and reflection may not induce the French Government to abandon the project which they have hitherto entertained.

His lordship, with his young Irish blood, may possibly be too sanguine, but it is plain that whatever room there is yet for hope must be entirely attributable to the cool and moderate course of our Government. The affair would long since have been desperate had it been managed to the taste of Mr Seymour Fitzgerald. The Emperor would have known very well that big words were the only ordinance we should employ after all; indeed Mr D'Israeli would have distinctly assured him of it; so that the effect would inevitably have been to make it a point of honour with the French Government to prosecute its design to execution.

Of course we are not to suppose that these gentlemen, were they again in power, would stand to one-half of their brave talk in opposition, or do many of the things which they urge so vehemently on Ministers; but there are two points in which we may be very sure they would perfectly maintain their reputation for consistency. They would be steady to the policy of making not only the French Government but the French people our enemies, and equally unwavering from their other principle in foreign politics, to lose no opportunity of gratifying Austria, especially by disparaging and damaging Sardinia, and with Sardinia the great Italian cause represented by her. We do not say that had a Derbyite Ministry been in office for the last six months, the grand results that we now witness would have been impossible; but unquestionably the change of government in England was a dispensation of Providence eminently favourable to the independence of Italy.

THE ITALIAN KINGDOM FORMED.

Victor Emmanuel is now the sovereign of the States of Central Italy,—Tuscany, the Romagna, and the Duchies of Parma and Modena,—by the same right by which Louis Napoleon rules the French nation. Let objections to the popular resolution, collected by universal suffrage and the ballot, come from what quarter it may, it cannot come with decency from France or her present ruler; nor is it to be believed that it will be disrespected by either. The majorities have been enormous in favour of union with Sardinia; in fact, the suffrages may be said to have been unanimous, so despicable in point of number were the adverse votes. Election by universal suffrage is not a favourite system with Englishmen; we have not yet adopted it into our institutions, and we have no intention of adopting it; indeed, had we ever been so inclined, the recent example of France itself would have seriously discouraged us. We had our doubts of the genuineness of the test applied in 1852 to discover the will of the French nation, and we disliked the result as well as the process; but with the great act that has just been done in Italy, though done upon the same model, we can cordially and honestly sympathise. The purity of the vote is beyond impeachment; we doubt if even Archbishop Cullen or Lord Normanby will question its sincerity. There has certainly, in this case, been neither terrorism exercised, nor corruption used. Nobody alleges any tampering with the urn in which the silent myriads deposited their resolves. If ever a people uttered the secrets of their hearts under no influence but that of conscience, the people of Italy have done so upon this solemn and critical occasion. To a certain extent it may be said that they have only repeated a determination already distinctly and even formally expressed; but the circumstances of the present vote were not the same as when the popular feeling was first consulted, and the difference was such as greatly to increase the weight of the second declaration. The first was against Austria alone; the second was superfluous as against Austria, and derived its significance entirely from its being in opposition to the will of France. We must consider it in that point of view to estimate properly either its courage or its importance. Above all things it demonstrates the existence of an Italian spirit as little disposed to brook the influence of one empire, as to tolerate the dominion of another. This applies, of course, only to Tuscany and the Romagna, for France had already acquired in the annexation of the Duchies. It was to the results of the appeal in the other provinces that Europe had been looking with such anxious interest; and it is here, in the Romagna and Tuscany, that the public unanimity is so eminently satisfactory. We should have seen with regret and alarm the same sentence pronounced even by what might under other circumstances have been properly called a decisive majority of votes. The union so decreed would have had a principle of unsoundness in it from the origin; the bride would have come to Piedmont with only half her dowry; the new kingdom would have been proportionally weak, and every eye, in Paris or Vienna, that speculates on Italian divisions, would have beamed with satisfaction. All such evils have been escaped by the surprising unanimity of the people, surprising at all events in Tuscany, where a pride justified by national recollections as glorious as those of any state in Europe might well have led us to expect a different issue. The Emperor of the French, indeed, seems to the last to have reckoned on Tuscan jealousy, especially on that of Florence, as sure to revolt eventually against the merger of her consequence in that of either Turin or Milan. But in this, as in everything else since the revolution commenced, the people of Italy have shown themselves free from all the narrow prejudices, and local sentimentalisms, which were springs of hope both to their open foes and hollow friends. Of all the states, Tuscany was called on to make the greatest sacrifice to the general cause, and in making it she has added a splendid chapter to her

already brilliant history. The minority that voted, under the influence of various motives, in opposition to the national will, was just sufficient to show that the most unpopular opinions were as free to express themselves as the most popular. The Tuscan votes for annexation to Piedmont were 366,571; those for a separate kingdom, 14,925. In the Romagna there was even more complete unanimity, as in that State there were none of the causes that existed in Tuscany to produce a diversion in the wrong direction. The hatred of the Papal Government carried all before it. In the province of Bologna, which best knew what the rule of the Church was, upwards of 78,000 votes were for annexation, and only 70 the other way. Here therefore, if the voice of the people is the voice of God, is a portion of his temporal dominions visibly rent by heaven from the Holy Father; and we shall see whether he will accept the doom with devout resignation, or take the course more according with the policy of the Vatican, of launching his brute thunders, and loosing his old bulls.

One remarkable circumstance of the popular decision in the Romagna will probably dispose the Holy See to moderate its fury. It will be seen that the parochial clergy have gone generally with the people; indeed in some cases have placed themselves in the front. These men have, of course, much closer relationships with their flocks than with the Pope; and we trust the practical view taken by them of the distinction between the spiritual and secular powers will have its due influence upon Roman Catholics among ourselves who have made themselves ridiculous by the opposite crotchet. It is not at all unlikely that the Italian clergy, by going with the people, have saved their religion from a fate in which a useless struggle for its temporalities might easily have involved it.

THE DECISIVE DIVISION.

The majority of fifty-three for the abolition of the duty on paper breaks the neck of the opposition to the Budget. This surrender of revenue was undoubtedly the most assailable part of Mr Gladstone's plan. It hung loose upon the Budget, and might have been struck off without any detriment to the main body of the measure. Farther, it furnished a fine handle for the complaint that the wants of the poor had not due consideration, and that both their comforts and a handsome and growing revenue were sacrificed for an object of doubtful advantage. The argument *ad crumenam* also came into play, the abandonment of a source of revenue yielding upwards of a million, being exactly tantamount to the addition of one penny in the pound to the Income-tax, and people were invited to compare the small saving they might make by the reduced price of books and stationery with the amount of the penny in the pound taken from their incomes. But that was not all. The question was raised whether there could be any considerable extension of the manufacture of paper and reduction of price, the supply of the raw material being scanty and limited. Rags are scarce, and most nations prohibit the export of those precious leavings of poverty. Now England is so rich as to be poorer than she need or should be in rags, which our very beggars will not be at the trouble to sell.

But to make up for the deficiency from that cause there is no country in the world which possesses so much old canvas and cordage past all uses but those of the paper-mill. How many thousands of square yards of sail-cloth, hammocks, &c., are condemned every year in the Royal and merchant navy as expended. All things considered, the apprehension of a failure in the supply of rags seems about as well grounded as the fear that the coal mines will be exhausted before we are three hundred years older. We are always haunted with some phantom of this kind, and a good-sized volume might be composed of the vain fears and panics which have from time to time troubled our public, and which Swift has scarcely exaggerated in his *Laputa*.

But notwithstanding all that could be objected, both fairly and unfairly, against the repeal of the paper duty, it has been carried by a majority large, considering the state of parties, and the prejudice attaching to the question. Against the claims put in for tea and sugar the argument of Mr Gladstone is thoroughly sound. Of tea nothing can be made but tea, and of sugar all the uses are known and fixed, but it is not so with paper, the capabilities of which have been dwarfed and crippled by the duty. The release of the manufacture from the gripe of the excise will be followed by a great expansion of it in new shapes and applications, and we are indeed promised houses like books bound in boards, and new churches of card. As all good subjects should do their best to assist to the supply of the raw material for the increased demand, the upper classes should set the example of commencing regular dealings with the rag shops, and every respectable family should have its transactions with a black doll. Mr Warburton, who patriotically and economically left off fires upon a calculation that the supply of coal would not last more than two thousand years, would in the present difficulty have shown us all the way to the rag shop. Rags and poverty have hitherto been associated, but the ideas must now be divorced as incompatibles, rags being so precious that nations are contending for them. France will send us her rich wines freely, but not so her choicer rags. The tatters that beggary drops are now the dearest care of States. Ragged Schools ought to change their names, which now sound of too much pretension, and too covetous.

People who have heard the wail in Parliament about the want of rags, and also the bombastic speeches of the Opposition on the Savoy question, would almost be disposed to think that the complaining members were patriotically tearing passions to rags for the supply of the market, but the commodity they thus produce will never equal straw. Take for example the peroration of Mr D'Israeli's speech on the Savoy question:

The Government of France have given us warning of their policy; we have worked to accomplish that policy; where, then, is our cause of complaint and controversy? But that does not alter the state of circumstances, and if those terrible consequences which the noble lord has foreseen do occur—if that principle of natural boundaries of empires now to be countenanced by, as I believe, the certain annexation of Savoy and Nice be realised; if distrust and despair be spread throughout Europe; if there be scenes of horror and sanguinary war; if empires be overthrown and dynasties subverted,—then I say it is the Minister, it is the Government, who assisted that policy who will be responsible to their country and to history for those calamitous results.

This is the fee-fa-fum strain excellent for the frightening of small children in nurseries, but rather exploded out of that credulous region. Mr D'Israeli is a man of sagacity as well as of genius, and why should he expect people to believe what he does not believe himself? No one dreams of distrust and despair through Europe, scenes of horror and sanguinary war, empires overthrown, dynasties subverted. All this is simply what the Persians call throwing big words into the air. If France helps herself to Savoy, the world will say more shame for her, and there an end. She is not the first power that has flouted against the laws of 1815, and she may plead what others cannot, a set-off, a *quid pro quo* of gain to Sardinia. But then comes into play that terrible fine end of the wedge, against which, however, we turn the seeming paradox, but we believe substantial truth, that nothing ever happens according to reasonable conjecture. In accord with which proposition is, indeed, Milton's excellent advice:

Be not over-exquisite
To cast the fashion of uncertain evils.

Never have we known the uncertain evils so over-exquisitely cast realised, though in our time we have known the country ruined in prediction, and its sun set for ever, more times than M. Mantalini poisoned himself.

As we have referred to Mr Gladstone's speech, we must mention his most successful answer to the complaint that the Treaty with France is a bad bargain. It is no bargain, replies Mr Gladstone, for the essence of a bargain is that each party to it gives up something worth retaining, and we give up nothing but what it would be hurtful to us to keep, duties not worth the cost of collecting, and detrimental to our commerce.

We do not so well agree with Mr Gladstone's view of the Income-tax. He declares the Income-tax grievous, as it affects persons of small incomes, and especially of small fixed incomes. But surely, if it be grievous to small fixed incomes, it must be more grievous still to the small incomes which are not fixed, but precarious. A man who has a hundred a-year of permanent income may be better able to bear the deduction of the Income-tax than one who has five times as much dependent on the accidents of health, and commercial or professional vicissitudes. Passing from the vices to the virtue of the Income-tax, Mr Gladstone found the latter to consist in this, that "in the main, without injustice in its general scope, it makes the property of the country subservient to the uses of the State, within limits which are safe, and for purposes which are beneficial." It seems to us hardly possible to pack up more hardy or false assumptions in the compass of a couple of dozen of words.

The Income-tax makes the property of the country subservient to the uses of the State, but whether within safe limits or for beneficial purposes may be questionable. Certainly there is nothing in the Income-tax any more than in any other tax to secure the proper application. At this moment we believe we are called upon for tennence in the pound to support charges for the army and navy, which might be reduced by three or four millions without diminishing the efficiency of the services. We grant, however, that the main part of the Income-tax proposed is necessary to the beneficial objects of Mr Gladstone's budget, but readily admitting this, we deny that it is levied in the main without injustice, and maintain that as far as schedule D is concerned the injustice is general and gross.

THE BANKRUPTCY BILL.

Few measures of the same importance and magnitude have ever been introduced with such general consent and approbation as Sir Richard Bethell's bill to consolidate and amend the laws of Bankruptcy and Insolvency. We avail ourselves of the excellent summary of its provisions which we find in our contemporary, the *Globe*.

It abolishes the distinction between bankruptcy and insolvency, subjecting the man who cannot pay more completely to the control of his creditors in his substance and property, out of which they can reimburse themselves, but leaving the man himself liable to a minimum of any personal restraint, only handing over the fraudulent debtor to the criminal courts. The bill abolishes the present London Commissioners in Bankruptcy, substituting one single Judge in London, of rank equal to the Judges of the Law Courts, who will be perfectly able to do all the judicial business. The official assignee, who has at present usurped a large portion of the administrative business, will be retained as a kind of auditor to the creditors' assignee; one main object of the Bill being to give the creditors more complete control over the property. In like manner the advantage of voluntary arrangements is retained; but they are brought within the jurisdiction of the Court, so as to restore the authority of the law, and at the same time to give greater certainty to the process. Creditors will be empowered to place the estate of an insolvent under the jurisdiction of

the Court, and then to proceed to a liquidation, on a compromise, to proceed partially, or to suspend proceedings, as in the case of voluntary arrangements; the debtor being protected against caprice and oppression, the majority of the debtors protected against the separate action of any malignant or impracticable individual, all of them protected against irregularity on the part of the debtor. And the whole action will be final, relieving trade from tantalising and useless speculative claims in future, and setting the debtor free to recover his position. In London the minor cases—under 300*l.*—will be handed over to an Assistant Court in Portugal street, and in the country the jurisdiction of the Commissioners will be gradually handed over to the County Courts. The existing fees will be abolished, and a simple "entrance fee" will suffice to grease the wheels of the machine.

Our readers will recognise in the main features of this important reform those of Lord John Russell's measure, to which we have more than once, during the last two years, had occasion to direct public attention. A bill so well received by men of all parties can hardly fail to be an addition to the legislative triumphs of 1860. Sir Fitzroy Kelly "congratulated the House and the country that a question of such importance had been taken up by a gentleman of whom he unfeignedly said he knew no one better fitted to grapple with its difficulties. The measure which the Attorney-General had sketched out presented much to praise and little to condemn." Mr James complimented Sir R. Bethell on "the courage and industry with which he had grappled with the abuses of the present law, which was a disgrace to a civilised country." Mr Malins particularly approved of the abolition of the distinction between bankruptcy and insolvency. In short, the bill was freely criticised by all the leading men in the House of legal or commercial authority, with such a preponderance of opinion in its favour that there can be no reasonable doubt of its success. The only diminution of the public satisfaction with a measure so loudly called for will be the cost it will involve in the shape of compensations for abolished offices, but the public will be amply indemnified for all such expenses by the general effect of the bill to prevent frauds, save property from dilapidation, and extinguish a multitude of fees for which the suitor receives no return whatever, either in the shape of justice or the despatch of his business.

THE REV. BRYAN KING'S LAST PRANK.

The appointed preacher of peace and charity in St George's-in-the-East has been convicted of an assault. The punishment of this offence, aggravated by gross indecency, as it was committed in the church and on the Sabbath, is, forsooth, merely nominal, a fine of five shillings. Why the same penalty has been imposed on a poor barber for shaving a customer, the pursuit of his ordinary daily occupation being deemed a profanation of the Lord's Day. And as contention with his flock is the ordinary daily occupation of the Rev. Bryan King, was not his lathering one of his parishioners on the Sabbath as much, or much more of a profanation than the barber's shaving?

But the magistrate, Mr Selfe, did not wish to give a triumph to either party, and therefore awarded this nominal punishment. Mr Selfe is placed on the bench to administer justice, and not to have regard to the triumphs or mortifications which may be incidental to the performance of that imperative duty. But in truth he did give a triumph to one of the parties, and the offending party, for a nominal punishment for such an offence as an assault in church on the Sabbath was a triumph not only over the complainant, but over the laws of the land and the laws of decency and decorum.

To make the aspect of the decision worse, it is alleged that Mr Selfe has leanings to Puseyism, and certainly very much like partisanship seems this strain of remark:

The unhappy differences in the parish were not caused by the particular services and modes of worship adopted by the rector. The change did not emanate from him, but from an indiscreet subordinate, who set himself up in opposition to the parishioners. Up to that time there were no disturbances. The outward manifestations of hostility to the rector were not caused by his choral services and ceremonials originally. It was an error to suppose so. The church was nearly empty at every service; the particular services had been carried on fourteen years and upwards with no interruption. There was no opposition to the rector by outward acts in the exercise of his spiritual duties until the rights of the parishioners were interfered with; but directly they were these unhappy differences commenced, and deplorable scenes followed. He hoped all persons who disapproved the rector's services would stay away.

This is a marvellously cool conclusion—this hope that persons who disapprove of the services will stay away. The magistrate hopes that people will not go to their church. He hopes they will give up divine worship. He hopes they will quietly abandon their religious duty, and fall into the number of those who do not attend public worship. But they have as much a right to their church as Mr Selfe has to his house, and their right is to a Protestant Church, to deprive them of which is analogous to robbery.

The whole tenor of the Rector's conduct has been illustrated by the act for which he was summoned to Mr Selfe's Court. He used an excess of violence to turn an individual out of his church, having turned the great bulk of his parishioners out of church by means yet more blameable, for the rough treatment of a man's person is a less wrong to him than offence to his religious sensibilities. But light indeed is made of religious duty in the recommendation to persons who are disgusted with Romish symbols, ceremonies, and mummeries to stay away from the church. As well might the magistrate advise a party complaining of a robbery to submit to do without the property of which he had been deprived. If to go to another church be the advice meant by Mr Selfe, it is like telling a man who has had his pocket picked to make no complaint and go and buy another watch.

The Week.

The Emperor of the French cannot now be mistaken as to the wishes of the people of Central Italy. The votes for annexation to Sardinia in Tuscany, Parma, Modena, and the Romagna, have been all but unanimous. No external influence for the purpose of effecting this result has been brought to bear upon the inhabitants of the Duchies and the Legations: it is entirely their own unbiassed act, and it is remarkable that all classes—the priest as well as the peasant—have manifested the same desire for union and constitutional government.

Simultaneously with the news of the Italian voting arrives the intelligence from Turin that the Sardinian Government has consented to the demand of France to effect the cession of Savoy and Nice by a special treaty, the form of voting for the annexation by the population of the ceded territories being gone through afterwards. This farce, it is stated, will be performed to-morrow, so it may be presumed that the treaty is already signed. The Swiss envoy in Paris has made his protest, and the Swiss Government are about to address a circular on the subject to the different Powers who signed the Treaties at the Congress of Vienna for the maintenance of the *status quo* in Savoy, and for securing the frontier of Switzerland. The accounts from Naples represent the political condition of that kingdom as fraught with elements of the greatest danger to the Government, in consequence of the unbridled tyranny of the King and the subservience of his slavish Ministers.

In the House of Lords, on Thursday, Lord Taunton's motion for an Address to the Queen on the subject of the Commercial Treaty with France was opposed by Lord Grey. He was supported in his views by Lord Derby and other peers, whose arguments were ably replied to by various members of the Government. On a division the vote was carried by a majority of 68 to 38. The annexation question having been raised last night, the Duke of Newcastle said, in reply to Lord Carnarvon, that Government had not yet had time to consider the last despatch of M. Thouvenel, and therefore he could not promise that it should be laid on the table.

The business in the House of Commons on Monday was confined to the debate on Sir W. Miles's amendment on the second reading of the Bill for the Repeal of the Paper Duty. The question was disposed of by a division, which gave a majority to Government of 53 in a House of 437 members. As almost every subject that is brought before Parliament, at the present moment, gives rise to a discussion on the annexation of Savoy, it was only natural that the Opposition should take advantage of the presentation of some additional papers on the affairs of Italy, by Lord John Russell, on Tuesday evening, to return to the vexed question. In spite of the straightforward course pursued by the present Government respecting Savoy, ever since their accession to office, Mr D'Israeli charged Ministers with favouring a policy of annexation, absurdly alleging that Lord John Russell had given the House no information on the subject. The Foreign Secretary's declaration of policy, no less than the correspondence last produced—full extracts of which we have given elsewhere—has completely disposed of Mr D'Israeli's captious accusation. Wednesday was given to the discussion of Mr Locke King's Religious Worship Bill. The measure was opposed by Government on the ground that it merely announced a general principle, without providing a specific remedy,—and by the Conservatives with characteristic bigotry, Lord Robert Cecil taking the opportunity of having a fling at the four members who belong to the Hebrew persuasion, for which he was promptly and ably rebuked by Sir F. Goldsmid, as well as by the Chancellor of the Exchequer and Sir G. C. Lewis, who followed in the debate. The bill was lost by a majority of 168 to 181. On Thursday the Attorney-General brought forward his Bill for amending and consolidating the laws relating to Bankruptcy and Insolvency in England. The general opinion of the House was very favourable to the measure. The Expedition to China was the subject of debate last night, and from the tenor of the speeches of Lord John Russell and Lord Palmerston it is to be hoped that the moderate demands of England on China will be accepted, and the effusion of blood prevented.

Three election petitions have been disposed of this week. Lord Bury has been unseated at Norwich, and Colonel White in the county of Clare; at Peterborough Mr Whalley has been more fortunate—for though the Committee found that bribery had been practised during the late election, they arrived at the conclusion that it was without the cognisance of the sitting member. The Committees on the Beverley and Berwick-upon-Tweed election petitions commenced their sittings yesterday.

There have been explanations—rather Irish ones—on all sides, in the affair of the Cork election: Alderman MacCarthy has made a statement showing that Lord Campden must have been cognisant of the fact of his being a candidate for that city; Lord Campden has done his best to show that he believed his nomination was "only a matter of form;" Mr Pope Hennessy "sees no discrepancy between the two statements;" and Lord Campden winds up the correspondence on the subject by declaring that he regards Mr Hennessy's letter as "perfectly satisfactory." One point, however, remains to be cleared up. The public will be curious to know who supplied the money for Lord Campden's election expenses. There is something more than "a matter of form" in advancing a sum of two thousand pounds.

Among domestic events, the sudden death of Baron

Watson, immediately after delivering his charge to the Grand Jury at Welshpool, will be deeply regretted, as well by the public as by the profession of which he was so distinguished an ornament. The manner of Baron Watson's decease forcibly recalls the melancholy circumstances attendant upon the death of the late lamented Mr Justice Talfourd, and by a coincidence which is really singular, both of these distressing events occurred on the same day.

The dissensions in the parish of St George's in the East may now be considered chronic. They are an epidemic exhibiting fresh symptoms every week. Churchwardens and policemen have alike been called in to proscribe, but the malady is beyond their skill to cure. Mr Bryan King has adopted the novel expedient of threatening to prosecute his parishioners for trespass if they occupy their seats for any lengthened period after the service is over. He offers a reward of 2*l.* a head for each conviction, and if the required informations are laid with success, he must have a long purse to meet the demand upon it.

THE LITERARY EXAMINER.

Italy in the Nineteenth Century. By the Right Hon. J. Whiteside, M.P. A New Edition. Abridged and Revised. Longman and Co.

The great moralists of antiquity had the discrimination to discern that our affections are liable to pervert our faculties,—and Cicero, Horace, and Lucretius, under the same conviction and almost in similar terms, have reminded us of the extent to which we may become blind to the vices of our friends, or even rendered partial to them, "veluti Balbinum polypos Hagnæ."

We have been forcibly reminded of this weakness of our organisation, by the opposite qualities of two authors, whose respective productions at this moment lie upon our table—one the work of Mr Whiteside upon Italy, whose title we have quoted above; and the other a dissertation upon 'Rome, its Ruler and its Institutions,' by Mr J. F. Maguire, M.P. for Dungarvan.

Mr Maguire, an able, and evidently an amiable man, after two visits to Rome with a considerable interval between, has embodied in the work before us the results of his inquiries into every branch of the Papal Administration,—and unlike the traveller from Dan to Beersheba, who pronounced all to be barren, the honourable member has discovered no one thing that he can describe otherwise than pre-eminently perfect. The Government of the Church, the administration of the laws, the freedom of the subject, the expansion of education, the development of social charities, and the treatment of criminals, are each of them a subject of distinct and earnest encomium. The dungeons of the Inquisition are absolutely found to be airy and delightful (p. 168); the dreary Campagna, with its waste and barrenness, is an object of admiration illustrative of the capabilities of that "vast region of rich but most deceptive-looking land" (p. 314), and even the law under which the little Mortara was dragged from the fireside of his home is in reality "a law of the wisest and most benevolent intention, for the protection of Jewish families from the risk of having their children baptised as Christians" (p. 337). The Pope, who, whatever may be his feebleness and shortcomings, is personally a prelate of the gentlest and most estimable affections, approaches, in the opinion of Mr Maguire, "nearer to the Divine model than any living man,"—and, in short, so appreciable are even his failings in the eyes of his biographer, that there is ground to surmise that had Pius IX been afflicted with the same repulsive excrement attributed by Horace to Hagnæ, the honourable member for Dungarvan would be predisposed to regard a polypus as a natural and becoming appendage to the infallible nose.

It is doubtless a remarkable fact, that whilst every country in the civilised world regards with pain and apprehension the aggravated misgovernment of the Roman States, and whilst an enlightened British Minister pronounces the Government of Rome to be "the plague-spot of European politics," a liberal gentleman of penetration and intelligence like Mr Maguire, should return from the very scene of these administrative enormities with a preposterous emotion of regard and admiration.

The volume just published by the Irish Attorney-General of Lord Derby is a wholesome corrective of this indiscriminate laudation. Prominent in its pages are disquisitions on the topic which of all others Mr Whiteside, by his antecedents, is eminently qualified to discuss, and the exposure which he makes of the Criminal Code of the Pope, and the mode of its administration (p. 319-323), dissipates every impression previously made by Mr Maguire as to the beneficence of the system and the mildness of its enforcement. The recorded declarations of Pius IX expressed his intention to reform the indefensible practice of secret prosecutions, and that thenceforward "justice should be administered in public, to ensure the confidence and respect of the people;" but the period for this all-important reform has never yet arrived, and in the meanwhile only "a few individuals by special permission are allowed to be present at important criminal trials" (p. 478). Mr Whiteside, who had sufficient interest to procure admission to hear a prosecution for murder, gives the following graphic account of the Court and the judges:

The cause is now ready for public debate, and it is time, as we have reached the 6th of March, and the crime was committed in November in the principal prison of Rome. A copy of the process was furnished to the advocate for the accused. The trial took place 13th of March at nine o'clock, in an apartment of the court-house, which was clean and quiet. On a raised platform sat four judges,

three with black caps, the fourth in a dark purple gown. The procurator fiscal dressed in a black silk gown, sat at the corner of the table, near enough to whisper to the judges; he was a gentlemanlike person. At a small table below the platform, on one side of the bench, sat arrayed in coarse black gowns, the advocates for the prisoners; near the oval table before the judges was a chair for witnesses, and close to it was a glazed picture of the cross lying flat on the table. Right opposite the judges was a bench, and on it, close to my seat, were placed the four prisoners. One leg of each was firmly bound by a rope to a holdfast behind the bench, the other leg being free. Guards with fixed bayonets stood behind the accused, who were all young men. There were besides the officials, about eight persons present at this serious trial; no relative or agent of the prisoners was there to take a suggestion from them, or to befriend them. The chief judge, a coarse blustering man, commenced the business by reading briefly parts of the process. He then severely interrogated each prisoner, first as to birth, occupation, &c.; then on the merits of the case in question, telling the accused what had been proved against them, and demanding what they had to say to that. Then began a scene of abuse and recrimination between the accused and the speaking judge, who was certainly "no well-tuned cymbal." The prisoners spoke with insolence. Whatever they alleged, the Chief Justice invariably answered, it was a lie. Each of the accused in turn indulged in an angry declamation, explanatory of his conduct. . . . After this scolding match, in which it appeared clearly enough that the mind of the judge was made up on the business, the Chief Justice cooled down, called the first witness, and examined him entirely himself. Rarely was a question suggested to the court by the advocates for the accused. Each witness was sworn by the judge, and the form consisted in laying the hand on the cross described, after the judge declared the oath. Sometimes the judge scolded the witness for not giving such evidence as was expected; frequently he recounted to the witness what a previous witness had proved, or what was stated in the process, and asked him what he could say to that. . . . The prisoner shaking his unfettered leg, generally answered, it was a lie. This inflamed the mild temper of the judge, who angrily asked the accused how he dared say that? how could he expect the judges to disbelieve so many witnesses and his own partial confession? There seems to be no law of evidence whatever, as we understand it, in the Italian procedure. The judge desires the witness to tell all he saw, heard, thought, or believed about the matter, and the witness does as he is bid, counsel never interrupting or remonstrating; every statement is received in evidence—a system fatal to innocence. . . . When the Chief Justice stopped, the procurator fiscal began, and spoke sitting in the position described. His style was gentlemanlike and easy. His exordium consisted of an eulogium on the Roman law; he talked of *filosofia e divina sapienza*; then he referred to the code, and cited a few articles to prove the crime to be premeditated murder; and with these generalities, submitted the case to the profound wisdom of the court. The burly Chief Justice whispered to the sleepy old man beside him, then mended his pen, and looked pleased on the procurator fiscal. This gentleman spoke an hour. Then commenced one of the advocates for the accused, who likewise spoke sitting; he ranted with theatrical gestures and in the wildest manner, about philosophy, wisdom, the Roman heart, and the over-ruling Providence. Not an allusion did he make to law or fact, and concluded in a storm. Signor Raggi, the official defender of accused men who were too poor to employ advocates, then spoke like a man of sense; he argued that the act was unpremeditated, dwelt on the excitement of the prisoners, owing to the insults of Sorrentini, and observed fairly, that no evidence had been given to show that the knives had been surreptitiously introduced to the prisoners, or to contradict their statement of having found them accidentally, and therefore contended that the crime of premeditated murder had not been committed. We were now turned out of the chamber where the judges remained, and in half an hour their minds were made up—they sentenced the four young men to be guillotined, and until executed, to be loaded with irons, and confined in separate cells. Not a little affected by what I had witnessed of Italian justice, I hastened away.

The whole of this great subject, the evil and its remedies, are described by Mr Whiteside with great temper and discrimination in numerous passages of his work, and especially in an introductory chapter, in which the events that constitute the passing history of Italy have been brought down to the present date.

Mr Whiteside's book is the result of a residence in Italy extending over upwards of two years; and it mentions not the Roman States alone, but the whole of the peninsula, from the Alps to the extremity of Naples. The re-issue of it in a condensed form (for the present is the third edition) comes most opportunely in the midst of the agitation which excites the sympathies of Europe as to the future destiny of the Italians. Unlike previous works of its class, it is not a mere handbook for galleries, churches, and museums, but a philosophical enquiry into the state of the Italian races, their laws, their economical and social condition, their literature, their history, and their political prospects. It literally abounds with important and unfamiliar facts, illustrative of these topics. In a series of agreeable 'Morning Walks' amongst the ruins of Rome, the author has introduced the casual visitor to all that is attractive in the treasures of the Eternal City, and he enlivens his duties as cicerone with a profusion of illustrations and classical criticisms, equally captivating to the inquisitive scholar and the mere pursuer of the picturesque.

Mr Whiteside's account of Florence is in every way complete; and the view which it presents of the laws and, above all, of the administrative reforms of the Grand Duke Leopold II, is by far the most accurate that exists in our language. The events and the aspects of Naples and its history are given with equal precision and succinctness; and to all who are desirous of mastering in a condensed and eminently lucid form the recent story of Italy, as it bears upon its future prospects, we can earnestly recommend these elaborate and most instructive volumes.

Blackwood's Magazine. March, 1860.

Some gentleman who prefers himself to Fielding, whom he allows, however, to have been wonderfully clever, has contributed to *Blackwood's Magazine* 'A Word about Tom Jones.' A word from him is enough. Lesser men might require to argue for a long time before they could persuade the world that the construction of the best prose work of imagination in our language—or probably in any language—is "essentially bad of its kind, and the kind very low," that its seriousness is "maudlin," and that "we must burn our

"pens and abdicate the judgment seat altogether, if we are to pronounce Fielding a great artist, or a great painter of human nature."

We had as great a critic as this, with his own quill for sceptre, enthroned in the judgment seat when Mr Rymer sneered contemptuously at "that Paradise Lost of Milton's" "which some are pleased to call a poem." In an early number of *Blackwood* possibly the Word may go forth from our second Rymer as it went forth from his predecessor against "some trifling tale as that of Othello," and we may have a new version of the opinion of the elder critic that "in the neighing of an horse, or in the growling of a mastiff, there is a meaning, there is as lively expression, and may I say, more humanity than many times in the tragical flights of Shakespeare." Rymer himself had written a tragedy, and knew, therefore, what tragedy should be. We half suspect that his successor in the judgment seat hath writ a novel. "It is a painful fact," says the Word, "that many men who are unstinted in their praises of the dead, have scarcely a kind word to bestow on the living; and much of the laudation with which our books and journals resound is only the obverse of a reluctance to admire the men of our own day. Something of this is envy and pettiness, but more is ignorance." As to the Word, so we believe it is.

In one of the journals there appeared some time ago a jest upon critical self-sufficiency in the form of a series of words, on Shakespeare's *Hamlet*. One critic discovered that play to be a melodrama of the worst school, and pointed out that of the dozen characters it contains, eight are killed by sword, drowning, or poison during the course of the piece; another appears as a ghost because he was killed before the play began; while of the three who are left alive, two are entirely insignificant, and the third only postpones suicide till he has had time to act as showman of the corpses of the rest. Surely we are entitled to a word on *Hamlet* from a critic who may be the living writer of a play that qualifies him to check the laudation of dead Shakespeare. Let Homer also be exploded. It is a long time since Justin Martyr pointed out that "the whole rhapsody of Homer's Iliad and Odyssey, beginning and end, is but a woman." It was a part of the policy of the Greek Fathers to convince the Heathens of the imperfection of their best authors. We are heathens, and the writer of this Word is our Greek Father; anything, we would hope, except an English man of letters.

Who that has read 'Tom Jones' does not remember the result of Tom's exuberance of joy upon the sudden announcement that Mr Allworthy, who had taken leave of his family as from his death-bed, was out of danger? The young man fed his happiness with wine, got drunk, and, after a very frank display of character within doors, went out into the fields, sat down by the brook-side to indulge in maudlin sentiment over his Sophia, got up, penknife in hand, to carve her name on barks of trees, and instantly bestowed himself on Molly Seagrim, who came dirty and sour from labour with her pitchfork in her hand. There is no part of the story shrewder in its teaching or more vigorous in its expression. But our ingenuous critic has detached from all its surroundings the romantic soliloquy after the manner of the old romances, put into the mouth of a love-sick youth whose reason is subdued by wine, and presumes so far upon the ignorance of his readers as to present it without one syllable of explanation, preceded by this introduction:

The deadness to Nature which Fielding exhibits is rather characteristic of the eighteenth century, and must not be made a special reproach to him; but it is very significant of his intensely unpoetical mind, that when he has to describe natural phenomena, he takes refuge from his incompetence by treating the subject as matter for burlesque. This, you will say, was the comic turn he wished to give it. Perhaps so; the comedy is very dreary, yet we will accept the excuse. But, unhappily for his pretensions as a poet, he is not always burlesque; and when he intends to be poetical, this is the sort of maudlin he produces.

And he appends this comment:

Now, we appeal to the reader's candour to say, if such a passage were quoted from a modern novel by some contemptuous critic, whether that novel would be "asked for at the libraries?" It is a sample of much of the serious writing to be found in Fielding; but, if it stood alone, it would be enough to give us the measure of his claims as a serious writer. We will not insult the reader by more citations. That one shall suffice.

The citation may indeed suffice, for it leaves to this vain critic no plea against condemnation for his incapacity but that of wilful misrepresentation.

But let us follow the oracle a little farther through his argument. "Is there," he asks, "truth or only a vast exaggeration in the almost unanimous verdict of modern critics respecting the supreme excellence of 'Tom Jones' as a work of art?" He admits the array of authorities, and we would observe that they are not modern only. The philosophical student of literature in Fielding's own time spoke as emphatically as the English scholar of the present day. Gibbon also, when he alludes to Fielding's descent from the Earls of Hapsburg, declares his belief that "the romance of 'Tom Jones,' that exquisite picture of human manners, will outlive the palace of the Escorial and the imperial Eagle of Austria." Byron, who revelled most in that manner of poetry from which the mind of Fielding was most widely parted, saw in the great English novelist "the prose Homer of human nature;" while Scott, whom the writer in *Blackwood* ventures to place far above Fielding, pronounced that "of all the works of imagination to which English genius has given origin, the writings of Henry Fielding are, perhaps, most exclusively her own." To the weight of intellectual opinion, says the man of a Word, "we should certainly not think of setting up our *dictum* in opposi-

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

THE ANNEXATION OF SAVOY.

Proclamations of the Governor of Savoy have been posted in all the parishes of that country, notifying that the inhabitants will be called upon to vote for the maintenance of the union with the monarchy of Sardinia, or for annexation to France, according to the form prescribed by Parliament. The *Courrier des Alpes* published at Chambéry announces, upon information obtained from an official source, that Savoy will not be dismembered, but will form two departments, and will preserve the Court of Appeal at Chambéry.

A telegram from Turin of Wednesday says: "The Sardinian Government has consented to the demand of France to effect the cession of Savoy and Nice by a special treaty, to be concluded between France and Piedmont. The treaty will be followed by a vote of the Municipalities, and the two contracting parties will afterwards communicate to the European Powers the nature of and motives for this territorial arrangement between them. By this arrangement Sardinia cedes to France Savoy up to Mount Genis, and Nice up to Villefranche inclusive. Thus all the passes of the Alps will be possessed by France, which likewise obtains the districts of Chablais and Faucigny. M. James Fazy and Dr Kern have been informed by the French Government that France declines to enter into negotiation for ceding Chablais and Faucigny to Switzerland." The Swiss Envoy at Paris has handed to M. Thouvenel a protest against any measure of annexation of Savoy to France. The Swiss Government will address a note to the Powers who signed the Treaties at the Congress of Vienna for the maintenance of the *status quo* in Savoy, and the guarantee of the neutrality of Switzerland, and of a portion of Savoy.

THE QUESTION OF UNIVERSAL SUFFRAGE.—An article appeared in the *Constitutionnel* of Saturday last, signed by M. Grandguillot, headed "Universal Suffrage and Public Order in Europe." M. Grandguillot thinks it necessary to explain the limits of the doctrine of national sovereignty now invoked against the Imperial policy to the advantage of the combinations which his Majesty cannot protest against, although prepared without his inspirations. It is necessary to show how a false extension of those principles may become an incessant source of troubles and dangers to Europe. Universal suffrage can only be applied to the internal affairs of a country, and cannot serve to modify the exercise of the sovereign power in relation with foreign affairs, nor for the aggrandisement of a territory. M. Grandguillot frees the French policy from the charge of being identified with acts as little conformable to the counsels given by France as to public right in Europe.—The semi-official *Donau Zeitung* of Vienna published on Wednesday an article on the "real meaning" of universal suffrage, which says: "Universal suffrage is only granted to the people to do whatever the predominant party might by intimidation force upon them. What established right could a nation thus obtain against coming events? Universal suffrage is a two-edged sword, the hilt of which could at any future time be also seized by a republic. By this way Italy is neither obtaining stability for the future, nor is Europe recovering the feeling of security which is now wanting."

MISCELLANEOUS FACTS.—The *Moniteur* published last Sunday the treaty of commerce concluded between France and England. The publication was preceded by a long report giving an historical outline of the negotiations which preceded the signing of the treaty.—The *Moniteur* of Wednesday announces that the Government has submitted a project of law to the Corps Legislatif for devoting 40,000,000*f*, in loans to manufacturers for the renewal and improvement of their machinery, and another project concerning modifications in the tariff for wools, cottons, and raw materials.—The *Siècle* has received a warning for quoting with approbation some passages from a recent theological work, published at Brussels, by M. Larroque, formerly rector of the Academy of Lyons. The article incriminated appeared on March 9, under the signature of Louis Jourdain; it is described in the warning as containing "attacks upon the fundamental principles of Christianity," and which are "more culpable when propagated through the periodical press than in works which, by their form and nature, are addressed but to a small number of readers."—The *Progrès* of Lyons contains the following: "The rumour of the proposed organisation of a kind of landwehr in France appears to have some foundation. A project is now under consideration at the Ministry of war for raising the annual contingent to 130,000 or 140,000 men; but of that number about one-third would form an active reserve of soldiers, who, following their ordinary occupations, would only meet for military exercise once or twice a month."—M. Thiers has just delivered to the printer the last sheet of Vol. XVII of the 'Histoire du Consulat et de l'Empire.' The third volume of the 'Mémoires de M. Guizot' is to appear in a week or ten days, and will, it is said, be equal in interest to the first two.—It is intended to demolish the pile of buildings constituting the chateau of St Germain *en Laye*. It has been an hospital, a prison, and a barrack, but is now so dilapidated as to be fit for nothing; pulling it down will afford ample space for profitable mansions.—The *Echo de Cevennes* states that the late hurricane tore up by the roots the largest and oldest of the fine chestnut trees in the grand promenade at Vigan. The trunk measured thirty-three feet in circumference. Accounts from Lozère state that the month of February was remarkable for hail, snow, and storm. Wolves, forced by hunger, showed themselves at Mende, and devoured a number of dogs. A blacksmith is said to have suffered the same fate at Viarouge.

ITALY.

THE VOTING IN CENTRAL ITALY:

THE OFFICIAL RETURNS.

EMILIA AND TUSCANY.

BOLOGNA, Friday Afternoon.

The following are the official returns of the voting in the *Emilian* Provinces and in Tuscany.

In the former, the population of which amounts to 2,127,105, the number inscribed on the electoral lists is 526,218; the number of those who voted is 427,508.

Annexation	426,006
Separate kingdom	756
Annulled	750

FLORENCE, Friday.

In Tuscany, out of a population of 1,806,940, there voted as follows:

Total number inscribed on the lists	386,445
For annexation	326,574
Separate kingdom	14,925
Cancelled	4,940

THE SETTLEMENT OF CENTRAL ITALY.

A despatch of Count Cavour to Baron Ricasoli, dated the 29th of February, communicates the French ideas relative to the settlement of Central Italy. Count Cavour says: "France manifests no pre-

tion; and were the question one purely of taste, we should be silent. But it is not so. Beside the question of taste, there is a question of criticism." Upon a matter of criticism hear me, I am Sir Oracle. The oracle proceeds frankly to confess that he has been loud in the praise of Fielding when he spoke from boyish memory and not from knowledge, and then, founding upon this foolish particular a very sublime generalization, he is good enough "to suspect" that those who extol the work loudly have not read it "since their sallet days, or have read it only in a listless mood;" that they talk only "of what seemed to their inexperience and youthful knowingness wonderfully varied and profound." Also, observes the vain censor, "we very much fear that the critics who have lavished their praises on the construction of 'Tom Jones,' would, for the most part, be totally unable to say in what construction consists." He of course does know, and proceeds to prove that his opinion is "one which may be placed beyond dispute."

With the amusing air of a man who twaddles ostentatiously, the critic proceeds to the diffuse utterance of four columns of common-places, very true and very stale, on the construction of a novel. He begins, however, with omission of the constructor's very first requisite, the choice of a good, durable building material. A whipped syllabus may be as perfect in construction as the Parthenon, and there are doubtless people of certain taste who would prefer the syllabus. Our critic talks only about economy of material, and the putting of each part in its right place. A carpenter building a pigstye may—if our criticism be confined to these particulars—be found to construct a work more perfect than St Peter's; and as our critic finds Miss Austin—to whose good and true fame we wish better honour than such vain comparison—superior to Fielding, he might find also some John Hopkins, joiner of Pedlington, to be a better architect than Michael Angelo.

There are novels and again novels. We re-affirm all that has been said of the skilful construction of the story of 'Tom Jones,' but the durability of the work depends on something even of more moment than its construction,—upon the imperishable character of its material, and on the security with which its foundations are laid, deep in the true hearts of Englishmen.

Fielding's first novel was provoked by an affectation; and it was prefaced with a distinct explanation of his own "idea of romance." In the first pages of his first novel he taught that "the only source of the true ridiculous is affectation." His jest was against insincerity in all its lighter forms; his power was against untruth. In all his novels, and in 'Tom Jones' most conspicuously, a generous and penetrating mind familiar with the ways of men dealt mercifully with all honest infirmities, sympathised with human goodness, and reserved its laughter, or its scorn, only for what was insincere. In 'Tom Jones,' a work was planned upon the ample scale to which readers had become accustomed. There was room for a wide view of life. The scene was divided fairly between country and town. The story was built out of the eternal truths of human nature, and was exquisitely polished on its surface with a delicate and genial humour that suggested rather than preached censure on the follies of society in England, not unmingled with the directest Christian condemnation against crime.

The very soul of the book enters into the construction of 'Tom Jones.' The picture of a good man, coloured by Fielding with some of the warmth of living friendship, is presented at once in Squire Allworthy; and there is a deep seriousness in the manner of presenting him on a May morning, walking upon the terrace before his mansion with a wide prospect around him, planning a generous action, when "in the full blaze of his majesty up rose the sun, than which one object alone in this lower creation could be more glorious, and that Mr Allworthy himself presented—a human being replete with benevolence, meditating in what manner he might render himself most acceptable to his Creator, by doing most good to his creatures."

The two boys bred by Allworthy, Tom Jones and Blifil, about whom the whole story revolves, are as the two poles of Fielding's mimic world. One of them is everybody's friend but his own; the other nobody's friend but his own. One is possessed of natural goodness, with all generous impulses, but with instincts, as we are once or twice distinctly reminded, wanting the control of prudence and religion. He lies open to frequent heavy blame, and yet more frequent misconstruction; yet we have faith in him because he is true, his faults are open, his affections warm. We know that time and love will make a noble man of him. The other conceals treachery under a show of righteousness and justice. His fair outside of religion and morality, the readiness with which he gives an honest colouring to all appearances, are represented wholly without caricature. His ill deeds are secret, his affections cold, and he is base to us by reason of his falsehood. We have been attending to the only sensible suggestion in the 'Word about Tom Jones' by reading the book afresh, and while we come from the work with the old admiration of the sterling English in which it is written, and of the keen but generous insight into human character that animates every page, we have strengthened greatly our sense of its brave morality. It may surprise a critic who tastes evil in the scenes of incontinence which the manners of his age permitted Fielding to include among his pictures of the life about him, to be told that they were not presented as jests by their author. Fielding differs in this as in many things, essentially from Smollett, that in his novels he has

never used an unclean image for its own sake as provocative of fun in ruder minds. In Fielding's page evil is evil. In 'Tom Jones' Allworthy delivers no mock exhortations; whenever Jones falls into incontinence the purity of Sophia follows next upon the scene, a higher happiness is lost, and his true love is removed farther from his reach. And at last the youth is made to assent to Sophia, when she replies, very gravely, upon his pleading of the grossness of his sex, the delicacy of hers, and the absence of love in amour: "I will never marry a man who shall not learn refinement enough to be as incapable as I am myself of making such a distinction."

Again, what can be more determined than the purpose underlying the invention of the theologian and the philosopher, Thwackum and Square, as tutors of Jones and Blifil. A wide world of discussion lies before us if we are to dissect so large a story to the end. We must be satisfied with a too general expression of its nature. In the account given by Fielding himself of the requisite qualities of the man who is "to invent good stories and tell them well," we find named after genius and study "a quick and sagacious penetration into the true essence of all the objects of our contemplation," and, of course, conversation with men. "Nor," he adds, "will all the qualities I have hitherto given my historian avail him, unless he have what is generally meant by a good heart, and be capable of feeling." In this spirit the man wrote "whose art," says our Greek father, "is of a very vulgar kind, and quite unable to withstand serious examination," whose "knowledge is knowingness," whose skill is "the vulgar art of inferior writers, and," he adds,

Fielding is not content with even this waiving of all claim to higher rank. A Dumas will employ this method of exciting curiosity, but he will respect the principle of Economy, even when violating that of Selection: he will not add superfluity to improbability. But Fielding's boasted construction has not even this merit. An immense proportion of 'Tom Jones' is episodical. It is a poor excuse to say that these episodes give variety to the work: a collection of separate tales, not professing to be a whole, but only professing to depict various aspects of life, would not form a well-constructed novel; and if Fielding is episodical, it is simply because he wanted to produce the effect of variety, and was not artist enough to make the variety spring from and tend to unity.

We regret that we have not space to unravel for pleasure's sake, rather than for the enlightenment of an affected critic, the whole web of Fielding's masterpiece. But of the episodes we may observe that they need no excuse, and it is not merely variety that they supply. It is completeness. In evidence of this it may be quite sufficient to refer to the one episode really open to a moment's doubt, called here "the rescue of the Man of the Hill and his tedious story"—six chapters of episode which have not the slightest "bearing on the action!" It is true that the Man of the Hill's story is not a part of the direct mechanism of the plot; but it is equally true that it is a vital part of the whole epic history. Only by episode could there have been interpolated between Jones's generous and Blifil's ungenerous principle of intercourse with other men, the picture of one who has wholly withdrawn himself from human intercourse, and dares to solve the question of life's duties by looking from afar with scorn upon his fellows. He had a false lover, a false friend. "What better, my good sir," asks Jones, "could you expect in love derived from the stews, or in friendship first produced and nourished at the gaming table?" And the brave manly lesson of life taught by the whole work closes an episode in the directest harmony with the inventor's main design.

It is a minor excellence that this part of the work has been contrived also to supply to the large study of English life those chapters, excluded from the main action of the tale by the peculiar education and the characters of Jones and Blifil, which paint the follies of youth at the University and the life of the gambler. Partridge once breaks upon the narrative of the Man of the Hill with a characteristic story of his own, in which Fielding commands wise reflection on the undefended state of criminals tried for their lives. We pass, however, from the greater to the less in touching on these things.

Shakespeare, we find, often offends our critic by violation of the principle of economy, "introducing speeches and scenes which are wholly superfluous or misplaced." But we would suggest the possibility of other men than Shakespeare introducing speeches or words which are wholly superfluous and misplaced. The word about 'Tom Jones' almost appears to have been written by a gentleman to whom reading is a mechanical act; to whom the story of a book is body without soul. That part of his criticism upon which we have not dwelt consists entirely of assertion, and although it evidently has the force of proof to his own self-sufficiency, may therefore be at once dismissed. It has pleased one Rymer to say, that it was the frivolity of Shakespeare which corrupted the stage of the day of Charles the Second. So let it please another to say, as this critic does, that in our Shakespeare of prose "there is only the vulgar artifice of the ordinary novelist." What matter? Flies will set their mark even upon the sacred vessels of the altar. But the gold abates nothing in value, and it is a very light part of the duty imposed upon the servants of the temple to efface their stain.

Dartmouth row Chapel, Blackheath, belonging to the Earl of Dartmouth, which has been closed as a place of religious worship for some time, has been let as a place for drill for the Greenwich and Blackheath company of artillery volunteers, and as a store-room. The necessary alterations, by the removal of pews, &c., have already been commenced, and the company will take possession in the course of a few days.

ference relative to the choice of the future Sovereign, but the verbal and authentic assurances of the French Government show that the election of a Prince of the House of Savoy would be opposed by France. I am certain that your Excellency will take into consideration the counsels given to Tuscany by our generous ally, to whom Italy is indebted for her destiny. The Government of Tuscany will not take the responsibility of the final deliberation without again consulting the nation. The Government, in acknowledging the opportunity for the new vote, hopes that the Cabinet of Tuscany will act in such a manner that the election will take place with loyalty and sincerity. Whatever may be the result, the Government of the King accepts it beforehand."

A despatch of Baron Ricasoli to Count Cavour, dated the 4th of March, denies the pretence that Tuscany aspires, without reflection, to union with Piedmont. Baron Ricasoli says: "Tuscany is intelligent enough to easily understand that the time for municipalism has passed, and that the national idea has replaced it. The government mandate of the 27th April was to free the country from Austrian slavery by means of a war, and to find a guarantee for the future in union with Piedmont. The attitude of the Tuscan people during the last ten months confirms this mandate, and proves that if union to Sardinia is a manifestation against Austria, it is nevertheless not an aspiration unthinkingly manifested towards Sardinia." Baron Ricasoli explains the motives by which, in concert with the Governor Farini, he has decided on the new vote being taken at the period fixed for the assembling of the Sardinian parliament, and says, "Everything confirms the opinion that we were right in freeing ourselves from a dangerous constitution. I have received your Excellency's despatch of the 29th February, and I consider it the duty of my loyalty to promulgate the French ideas among the Tuscans. It suffices to say that universal suffrage is not in contradiction with the wishes of the Emperor, who has many and important titles to the gratitude of the population of Central Italy. The cabinet of Turin would not take the responsibility of the definitive resolution, but I guarantee that the vote shall be given in full and absolute liberty."

The Turin Official Gazette of the 9th publishes a message of M. Farini, dated Bologna, March 2, and addressed to Count Cavour, in reply to the message of the latter, dated February 29. M. Farini says: "According to the English proposals the whole of the population of Central Italy were, without distinction, to be called to a fresh vote before the occupation by Sardinian troops took place. The state of things seemed to indicate the propriety of accepting any form of the vote which the mediating Powers should propose. If the form is not decided upon, he should choose that of universal suffrage. The most favourable moment for the vote appeared to be the time of the convocation of the Sardinian Parliament, as it was then to be decided whether or not these populations should participate in the Assembly, or, at all events, to discover a method of adjusting the precarious and dangerous state of affairs." The reading of the last diplomatic documents, and especially M. Thouvenel's note of the 31st of January, confirmed my opinions. I therefore resolved upon publishing my decree of the 1st of March, summoning the inhabitants of the Æmilian provinces to a new vote. At the same time I received your message communicating to me your ideas upon the French proposals. I received them with that respect and deference due to his Majesty, who has done so much for our independence, and who has not prohibited the publication of these proposals to the people. I could never have taken any resolution without consulting the national will. My decree is not in contradiction to the desires of the Emperor. If, at the first view, some difference seemed to exist relative to the Romagna, in reality there is none. It would have been contrary to the public law to establish a distinction between these provinces and the others. Since France is disposed to approve the annexation of the Romagna to Piedmont, with the recommendation that the Sardinian Government in these provinces should be subordinate to the high authority of the Pope, the proposed Vicariate refers rather to the relations between the King and the Pope than to the inhabitants. I could not have submitted to the people this abstract and delicate question, which would have required complicated explanations on the nature of the limits to the authority of the Pope. The acts of Rome had destroyed any possibility of such a combination, which, even if established in these provinces, would have produced disturbances, nothing being more aversive to the inhabitants than Papal interference." M. Farini concludes: "In case the party voting in favour of a separate kingdom should obtain a majority in the Romagna, this party would very easily consent to any arrangement which the Government of his Majesty, in accordance with European diplomacy, might think proper to adopt. My duty and my honour oblige me not to leave these provinces at the present moment, as my mission has been an absolute one; but I can promise every guarantee for full and absolute liberty of the vote."

Baron Talleyrand has remitted to Count Cavour another despatch of M. Thouvenel, which replies to Count Cavour's despatches of the 1st and 3rd of March. M. Thouvenel points out the essential difference which exists between the question of the annexation of Tuscany to Piedmont and that of the annexation of Savoy to France, and says that the principal difficulty which opposes the first is to obtain its recognition by Europe, which has guaranteed the possession of Tuscany to the dynasty of Lorraine. In the latter this difficulty disappears in presence of the arrangement between France and Sardinia relative to the spontaneous cession of Savoy, consequently the Emperor of the French requests the regulation of the question of Savoy by a simple cession to be settled by mutual consent, and without having recourse to universal suffrage. M. Thouvenel thinks that to become acquainted with the wish of the country it would suffice to consult the municipalities of Savoy. As regards the annexation of Tuscany, M. Thouvenel repeats that France could not follow Piedmont in a perilous course. If King Victor Emmanuel accepts the annexation of Tuscany he would necessarily remain exposed to the risks of such a policy without being able to reckon upon the support of France.

THE CONDITION OF NAPLES.

The frightful state of affairs in Naples may be illustrated by the following extracts of letters from the correspondent of the Times. On the 6th he writes: "Every one remarkable for talent, or education, or love of liberty, has from time to time been made away with, until London, Paris, Turin, and Florence, and even Vienna, now possess Neapolitans who would do honour to any country, but whose simple presence here would be a living protest against the wretched and ferocious Government which now affects to direct the affairs of this country. On Saturday last, seven victims of despotism, not fourteen, were sent out of the country; for at the last moment the sentence was suspended in the case of the others. Those who left were—the Marchese Vulcano, the Marchese Monterossi and his brother, Cavalier Mezzacapo; De Simone, an advocate and literary man, and nephew of the confessor of the late King; De Filippis, an advocate, and his brother, a Government employé, promoted by a Royal rescript on the very day of his arrest, and paid as well; and Varca, ex-Attorney-General of the Criminal Court of Capua. They were arrested, some in the street, and some in their houses. Vulcano was told not to make a noise (it was near midnight), and was not permitted to enter his house for his cloak; all were taken to the Prefecture, and told that the Prefect wanted to speak to them. To some he said that their residence in Naples was incompatible with public tranquillity; others were kept waiting—it was not convenient for the Prefect to see them, and a commissary of police informed them later that they must leave the country on the following day, and that passports would be given them. No accusation was made—a special

order of the King so required it; he was determined to maintain order, and they would be quieter out of the country." Some protested against the illegality of the procedure—a useless form; two requested permission to go to Rome by land, as their health was delicate, but the favour was refused. One of these, always infirm, had been put into a low small room with six others, where the closeness of the atmosphere and the effluvia from the privy, which opens into the room, are so insufferable that prisoners are compelled to keep the window open during the nights even of winter. The gentleman of whom I speak threw up blood as a consequence, and his voice and appearance but too well attested his suffering. In this room and two others adjoining, alike infected, noblemen, gentlemen of his Majesty's bedchamber, advocates, and literary men, spent the night in the company of others who have been there for months, and one since 1849, I am told,—kept there as a decoy-duck or spy. As the seven prisoners of whom I spoke were taken out of the Prefecture, another was brought in, Stanislau Gatti, a literary man, received in the first circles of Naples. On Thursday night I met him at Baron Brenier's, the French Ambassador's reception. He had not slept in his own house for a week, in order to avoid the police; and in twenty-four hours he was in one of the fetid chambers of the Prefecture. I cannot describe the despair and consternation of the people; for they feel that union is impossible in face of such an organized system of espionage as that which exists here, as the result of many years of tyranny and corruption; whereas partial risings would only expose them to be mowed down by the cannon from the forts, or shot like dogs by the soldiers in the streets. The state of affairs cannot be appreciated by persons at a distance, and those who prate about union and resistance should first study in detail the circumstances of this people on whom the curse of man seems to rest. It is easy to talk of union in the streets of London, but Naples—God help her—the very birds of the air are hirelings of the Government. . . . On Sunday morning, a day of repose in most countries, here of ruffianism and persecution, Signor Zir, the highly-respected landlord of the Victoria Hotel, was pulled out of bed at six o'clock in the morning. The British Minister is residing under his roof. Zir was arrested in 1848; his brother is now in exile, and he himself for many years has scarcely spoken above his breath. Teodorico Cacace also was arrested; he is the legal adviser of the French Legation, and one of the accusers of Poerio might have been deemed safe. Errico Pessina, an advocate, a young man of distinguished talent; Giovanni de Falco, formerly Attorney-General in 1849; and the priest Leopoldo Perez, an ex-Jesuit, are in the last haul, and I pause for other names before I send off this letter."

Again, on the 10th, he says: "The Marchese Bella left on Wednesday afternoon; Prince Torella, Prince Camporeale, and Signor Cacace, the advocate of the French Legation, will, I understand, be compelled to leave. Duke Proto is endeavouring to procure his passport, as he, in common with all, is convinced that no one is safe in Naples—no, not even a prince of the blood Royal, as I believe I can confirm by stating that it has been very recently under consideration to send the Count of Syracuse his passport. Of course the prisons are full; the *faccini*, and all those of the *basse classe*, have been draughted off into the Vicaria; many have been sent to S. Maria Apparente, which is full of old and new victims, some of the former class having been there for more than three years without trial, while others still linger in those places of temporary deposit, the prisons of the Prefecture. There are several statements as to the number of those who have been arrested, but I should imagine that several hundreds have been seized, and among them I am positively assured are twenty priests. As to the provinces, I can say, on the authority of a distinguished personage, that 800 or 900 persons have been arrested up to the middle of the week; and the returns up to the present moment would probably give a far greater number. Though the Government has not condescended to assign any reasons for its *vassia*, it is impossible to believe that it has acted without motives or a plan, and, as far as I can ascertain, they are as follows: It affects to have discovered a widely organized conspiracy."

My last letter announced that the French and Spanish Ministers had been refused an audience of the King, and the former certainly not in a flattering or courteous manner. Mr Elliott took the precaution to request an audience of the King through the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Commendatore Carafa, and on Wednesday last it was granted. What Royalty says does not, of course, transpire, but, unless I am greatly mistaken, Mr Elliott expressed himself as follows: "He had considered it his duty to beg an audience of his Majesty in order to offer his counsels and express his opinion on the present state of affairs. He considered that the measures which had recently been taken were fraught with danger to the country, to the person of the King, and to the dynasty." I am under the impression that the King admitted the danger, but contended for the necessity of such measures, and spoke of conspiracies. In allusion to the many fabrications of this kind, Mr Elliott is reported to have said that with the permission of his Majesty he would bring witnesses to prove any and every man a conspirator. Our Minister has done his duty honestly and fearlessly, but no remonstrances will ever turn aside this divinely descended and protected race from the path which the Madonna Immacolata is supposed to have pointed out. On the same day on which Mr Elliott (whose audience lasted nearly three-quarters of an hour) saw the King, Baron Brenier and the Spanish Minister, as also the Swedish Minister, obtained audiences. I believe that the tone of their remonstrances was similar to that of Mr Elliott, but I am informed that in one instance the Minister was told that it was his Majesty's affair to maintain order."

UNITED STATES.—The Arabia has brought the New York mail of the 29th ult. Nothing important has transpired relative to the loss of the Hungarian, but it is certain that not a single person was saved. No additional bodies had been found, but fifteen mail bags and many loose letters had been recovered. The Senate was discussing the treaty with Mexico. Senator Seward had made a great speech in favour of the admission of Kansas into the Union. The House had at last elected a printer, in the person of ex-Governor Ford, of Ohio. The Senate had called upon the President for a copy of any report which may have been made by the commissioner for marking the boundary between the United States and the British territory. Notwithstanding the Governor's veto, the bill abolishing slavery had again been passed in the Legislature of Kansas. A letter from Greytown states that Mr Wyke, the British Plenipotentiary, had negotiated a treaty with Nicaragua on the following basis: "The Mosquito country to be immediately returned to the sovereignty of Nicaragua. The settlement of Bluefields is excepted from the above. Nicaragua will pay to the Mosquito King a pension of 5,000 dols. annually for ten years. After ten years the Bluefields' settlement will also be subject to the sovereignty of Nicaragua." Among the Washington items we find the following respecting the negotiations between the United States and Great Britain respecting the slave-trade: "Captain M'Blair, of the navy, lately returned from the African station, has had an interview with the Secretary of State on points involved in the slave-trade controversy. The Government is desirous of being 'posted' before answering Lord John Russell's note, the terms of which were not pleasing to the Administration." Mr Keitt, brother to the member of Congress for South Carolina, had been murdered by some of his negroes, who almost severed his head from his body. He was at the time confined to his bed by illness. The Prince Albert has since arrived with New York advices of the 6th inst. The Washington journals contain a despatch from General Cass to Mr Mason, the late American Minister to France, dated 27th June, 1859, on the right of neutrals, in which he declares the stop-

page of neutral vessels an unwarrantable assumption of jurisdiction, and that coal, although a military article, is not contraband of war, and he repudiates the right of other nations to declare it contraband. Mr M'Lean had returned to Vera Cruz, with full powers to act in any emergency. Two war steamers had sailed from Havannah under the Mexican flag, and were reported as being engaged by Santa Anna to aid the Church party. Miramon's whereabouts was unknown at the latest dates, but he was understood to be on his way to Vera Cruz, and had issued a proclamation commanding its submission. No later news of the Hungarian. Agents have been at the wreck, but discovered no bodies; it was supposed they had been carried to the eastward. The cargo was floating about.—By an arrival from Portland we learn that the surveyors sent to the Hungarian had found three bodies—a fireman, woman, and child. The cargo, which was scattered along the coast, was drifting ashore. The mails, soaked to pulp, were forwarded to Halifax.

INDIA.—Mr Wilson made his financial statement on the 18th of February. The deficit is about nine millions. He proposes a trade licence of from 2s. to 20s. yearly; a tax upon incomes of from 240 to 600 at 2 per cent, and above that at 4 per cent, with no exemptions. A large duty upon tobacco. The tariff is to be modified. There will be no loan.

FOREIGN GLEANINGS.

The official Dresden Journal publishes a powerful article on the annexation of Savoy, in which it says: "The whole blame is to be attributed to the policy of England, which shook the bases of peace agreed upon at Villafranca, and to the passive attitude of the other Powers on the non-realisation of the Treaty of Zurich. To offer any opposition at the present moment would be too late, as the annexation of Savoy to France may be regarded as an accomplished fact."

The committee of the German National Association now assembled in Berlin is about to publish an energetic declaration against the theory of natural boundaries, and the annexation of Savoy to France, stating therein that Germany will be strongly united in future times of danger.

The second campaign of Spain against Morocco has commenced. On the 11th numerous Moorish tribes, including the Kabyles of Melilla, attacked the encampments at Tetuan, and were repulsed. The Moorish positions were taken, and the Moors pursued for a distance of half a league. Their losses were considerable. Negotiations are said to be again on the tapis.

The Archduke Maximilian, the Emperor of Austria's brother, who is at present travelling in the Brazils, has been recalled to Europe. He is expected to be at Trieste about the beginning of May.

In the Belgian Chamber of Representatives, on the 10th inst., the Minister of Finance brought in a bill for the total abolition of the *octroi* duties. The loss occasioned by this measure will be made up to the communes by 75 per cent. of certain duties belonging to the state. The project was received with hearty and prolonged cheering.

The Belgian Chamber have adopted some severe enactments against duelling. In the event of the death of one of the parties, the survivor will be liable to imprisonment of from one to five years, and a fine of from 2,000f. to 10,000f.

At the last sitting of the Germanic Diet, the President read a communication from the Minister of Great Britain, announcing that a Statistical Congress would meet in London on the 16th July next, and inviting the different Governments to send delegates to it.

The New York Illustrated News has sent a special correspondent, and a distinguished artist, to England, to attend on the international encounter between Heenan and Sayers, and give correct views or descriptions of the training-grounds, the mode of training the pugilists, the sporting places in England, with faithful portraits of Heenan and Sayers, and of their seconds.

A message from Alexandria was received on Wednesday reporting that telegraphic communication is now complete between that place and Kurrachee.

In a list of the exports from San Francisco, for the year 1859, there is the item of 390 bags of aballones. These aballones are the sea shells of commerce, from which a large portion of the pearl and pearl-shell ornaments are manufactured. Thousands of these shells are found on the shores of Upper and Lower California, when their rough and unsightly coats are removed a substance is found which equals the finest pearl.

FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE RELATING TO THE AFFAIRS OF ITALY.

The additional despatches relating to the affairs of Italy, laid on the table of the House of Commons on Tuesday night, date from the 17th of February to the 9th of the present month, thus bringing the correspondence up to the close of last week. The correspondence is principally occupied with the new proposals of the French Government for settling the affairs of Italy; and the most important of the French despatches on this head, such as M. Thouvenel's letter to the French ambassadors at the Courts of London and Turin, have already been made public. A number of references are, however, of necessity made to the subject of Savoy, and Lord John Russell's language, with regard both to this and the new policy of the French Government in Italy, is plain and decided throughout. On the 17th of February Lord Cowley writes that he had just had an interview with M. Thouvenel, who had communicated to him in confidence the Emperor's new scheme in regard to Italy, asking at the same time if her Majesty's Government would be satisfied with such a proposal. Lord Cowley at once replied, that "the policy of her Majesty's Government was not to interfere in Italy at all, but to let the Italian people settle their own affairs;" and he could not therefore hold out any hope that the English Government would entertain any such proposal. Lord J. Russell promptly confirmed this statement. After replying that her Majesty's Government had proposed four points to Austria and France, the fourth of which had been "virtually" accepted, he adds:

"In this state of affairs it is impossible for her Majesty's Government to recommend any other plan. The declarations of Count Rechberg convey a resolution on the part of Austria not to outstep the limits of Venetia. Those of Count Cavour are positive in abjuring any attempt to disturb Venetia, or those states which still acknowledge the authority of the Pope. It would seem, therefore, that the next step is to order new elections in Central Italy. Whether these elections should be conducted upon principles already known and acted upon, or by universal suffrage, is a matter upon which her Majesty's Government decline to interfere. They wish to leave Italy to herself. With respect to Savoy, which is again mentioned in your despatch, the sentiments of her Majesty's Government are already known to M. Thouvenel, and it is hardly necessary to say that their objections are not diminished by the present proposal.

Two days later the Foreign Secretary writes again to Lord Cowley with special reference to Tuscany: Foreign-office, Feb. 22, 1860. My Lord,—I have received and laid before the Queen your excellency's despatch of the 21st instant. With reference to the part of your conversation with M. Thouvenel reported in that despatch, which applies to the affairs of Tuscany, I have to instruct your excellency to state to that minister that Baron Ricasoli expressed to Sir James Hudson, on an overture made some time ago for a kingdom of Central Italy, his very decided repugnance to any plan but that of annexation to Sardinia. He has, however, agreed to a new election and a new vote; and, as far as her Majesty's Government

are concerned, there is nothing more to be done. If Sardinia embraces of her own accord the French proposals, her Majesty's Government have nothing to say. If she declines them, her Majesty's Government conclude that the French army will, in the spring, evacuate Lombardy, and leave Northern Italy to itself. It seems to her Majesty's Government, that a young prince of the house of Savoy planted in Tuscany would be more likely to become hereafter King of Southern Italy than the King of Sardinia himself.—I am, &c.
(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

The more formal reply to the new French proposal is given in another despatch from Lord J. Russell to Earl Cowley, dated Feb. 27, 1860: I do not think it necessary to discuss the project proposed to the Sardinian Government by the second of these despatches. That project appears to us entirely subversive of the independence of Italy, which was the professed object of the treaty of Zurich, as declared in the preamble of that treaty. It was never intended by her Majesty's Government to ask for the acceptance of the fourth proposal by Austria, Russia, and Prussia. It was intended only that Great Britain and France should invite the authorities newly constituted in Central Italy to convoke the assemblies to renew in a solemn manner their votes of August last. The sovereigns of Austria, Russia, and Prussia, it appears to us, may take one of two courses. They may stand upon treaties, and upon the principle of legitimacy, and may refuse to acknowledge the King of Sardinia or any other prince than the Grand Duke as sovereign of Tuscany, or any other authority at Bologna than the cardinal legate named by the Pope; or they may acknowledge the force of facts, and recognise the new power as they recognised Louis Philippe, the republic, and the Emperor himself. But that they should say that the vote of August was good, but that the vote of March will be invalid; that they can admit a claim founded on the enthusiasm and acclamation of an excited people, but refuse to acknowledge the calm and deliberate decision of that same people—such a contradiction appears to her Majesty's Government impossible. With respect to a conference, the present moment does not appear to her Majesty's Government favourable for such a meeting of the great powers. When Italy has decided for herself, such a conference might be useful. But, at present, Great Britain could not assist at such a conference, which, in her opinion, would only aggravate differences.

After the delivery of the Emperor's speech, Lord Cowley writes to Lord John Russell: I saw M. Thouvenel for a few minutes this afternoon after his return from the opening of the session of the Legislative Bodies.—Our conversation turned upon the Emperor's speech, and I expressed to M. Thouvenel my apprehension that his Majesty's words would not inspire in Europe the confidence which they breathe themselves. I then passed to the paragraph of the Emperor's speech relating to the annexation of Savoy. Remarking that his Majesty had made use of the words "réclamer" and "revendiquer," with regard to territory belonging to another Sovereign, I expressed my great regret that the promise which his Majesty had been good enough to make to me—namely, that the wishes of the Savoyards themselves should be respected, had not been alluded to by his Majesty. M. Thouvenel replied that although the declaration was not to be found in the Emperor's speech, his Majesty intended to abide by it. Lastly I inquired of M. Thouvenel what was intended by the words, "Versants Français des Montagnes"? What amount of territory did this term include? His excellency announced that he could not take upon himself to specify less than Savoy and the county of Nice.

On the third of the present month Lord J. Russell writes to Earl Cowley: I have to state to your excellency as the opinion of her Majesty's Government that, after the Austrian answer to M. Thouvenel's able despatch to M. de Moustier had been received, the Italian question appeared to approach its solution. The French and British Governments had only to leave Central Italy to take its own course. No disturbance was likely to arise, and when the new power was consolidated, Russia and Prussia might have yielded to fact that recognition which they denied to right. The new proposals of France have again made everything uncertain. Should the King of Sardinia declare himself the Pope's vicar, he will hardly be recognised in that character by his Holiness. Whether he is or not, the laws on the Church and on education which the Pope's vicar would sanction, would be directly opposed to the policy of the Pope, and perhaps to the canon law. Then, if any discontent should arise at any time, the Pope might take upon himself to annul the delegation of his vicar, and absolve his subjects from their obedience to his usurped authority. Then, again, with regard to Tuscany. The indication of a prince of the house of Savoy, inserted in the original project, is omitted, and every resource of intrigue will be set at work to obtain for Tuscany the powerful protection of a prince of the house of Austria, or of the Imperial family of France. With respect to universal suffrage, every nation ought to judge for itself whether that franchise is suitable for itself or not. France has judged for herself that it is suitable to the state of France, and no one thinks of questioning that decision. But Tuscany has lived under other laws, where utility has been generally recognised. As it appears, however, that Tuscany has now accepted universal suffrage, it is not necessary to carry this discussion any further. Our object has been that so well stated by M. de Thouvenel in his despatch to M. Moustier in these words: "Italy, for centuries past, has been a field open to a struggle for influence between France and Austria. This field must be closed. If one of the two Powers, formerly rivals, made a sacrifice which should be directly to the advantage of the other—if the supremacy in Italy, only changing hands, was to be ours for a time—the question would appear under an aspect rendering all discussion idle and barren. But the question is not so propounded. France does not seek to substitute herself for Austria in Italy; the matter is, to constitute Italy herself as an intermediate party—as a kind of neutral ground, henceforth inaccessible to the action, alternately predominating and always precarious, of one or other of the two Powers."

The correspondence terminates with the despatch in which Lord J. Russell directs Lord Cowley to ask in what way the European Powers would be consulted with regard to the annexation of Savoy, and Lord Cowley's reply.

Foreign-office, March 6, 1860. My Lord.—M. de Persigny called upon me to-day, and read to me a despatch of M. Thouvenel, on the subject of Savoy, in answer to my despatch to your lordship of the 13th ultimo. M. Thouvenel directed M. de Persigny to leave me a copy of this despatch, if I desired it; but as there was nothing new in the arguments, although very ably put, and as I did not wish to continue a barren controversy, I did not ask for a copy. I wish your lordship, however, to ascertain from M. Thouvenel in what manner the promise of the Emperor that the Great Powers shall be consulted is to be carried into effect. Is there to be a previous vote in Savoy and in Nice? If that vote is unfavourable to separation, will the project fall to the ground? If it is favourable, will the proposed cession, by the King of Sardinia, of Savoy and Nice be submitted for consideration to the Great Powers? To what do the terms "réclamer" and "revendiquer," in the Emperor's speech, allude? Are they intended to apply to the term between 1814 and 1815, or to the period between 1792 and 1814?—I am, &c. (Signed) J. RUSSELL.

Earl Cowley to Lord J. Russell (Received March 10). Paris, March 9, 1860.—I was surprised, on calling this morning on M. Thouvenel, to find that he had been for two days in possession of M. de Cavour's reply to that part of his excellency's despatch of the 24th ultimo which related to the annexation of Savoy to France. I proceeded, in compliance with the instructions contained in your lordship's despatch of the 6th instant, to ask his excellency in what manner the promise of the Emperor, that the Great Powers should

be consulted on this matter, is to be carried into effect. M. Thouvenel replied that, the Sardinian Government having declared that they would not object to the annexation of Savoy to France if such should be the wish of the Savoyards themselves, he was about to draw up a despatch which would be addressed to the imperial representatives at the Courts, parties to the treaties of 1815, explaining the wishes of the Imperial Government, and the reasons why it was considered that these wishes should be acceded to. His Excellency thought that this despatch would be sent off on Tuesday or Wednesday next. With regard to your lordship's second question, whether there should be a previous vote in Savoy and Nice, M. Thouvenel replied that the Imperial Government adhered to the principle of consulting the wishes of the inhabitants of those two countries. In what manner and at what period this appeal was to be made he could not now state; but, as at present advised, he should say that the communication to the Powers would precede the vote. He reserved to himself, however, to act in this matter as circumstances might require. Should the vote be unfavourable, he had no hesitation, in reply to your lordship's third question, in stating that the project of annexation would fall to the ground. Your lordship's fourth question is answered under the first. To your lordship's inquiry as to the period to which the terms "réclamer" and "revendiquer," employed in the Emperor's speech, allude, M. Thouvenel replied, to no particular period whatever. The Emperor considered that the new order of things about to be established in Italy gave him the right to protect the French frontier; and it was in virtue of this right, which it seemed to him he possessed, that his Majesty made use of the words in question. In the course of the conversation, M. Thouvenel, in reply to an observation which fell from me, said that the Imperial Government would of course receive with due consideration, and scrupulously examine, any arguments or advice which might be given in answer to the communication which he was about to make to the Great Powers.

These new despatches completely meet the charge recently brought against Lord John Russell that he did not communicate the intentions of the French Government with regard to Savoy to our representatives at foreign Courts.

STATE AND CHURCH.

VISIT OF THE PRINCE OF WALES TO CANADA.—It is now officially announced that the Prince of Wales will visit British America in the course of the spring. The period assigned for his departure is the middle of May. The sojourn of the Prince in the colony will extend over a period of two months.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

WEST SURREY.—This election took place on Saturday, when Mr G. Cubitt was returned without opposition.

WORCESTER.—Mr Padmore was elected for this city on Tuesday, in the room of Mr Laslett. He was unopposed.

NORWICH.—Lord Bury having been declared not duly elected, the two seats for this city are vacant, and the electors are bestirring themselves to supply the places of the unseated members. No addresses have yet appeared from any gentlemen soliciting the suffrages of the electors, but the liberal party have not been inactive in taking steps to fill up the vacancies in the representation. Mr E. Warner and Sir W. Russell are said to be the liberal candidates. No conservatives have yet come forward.

Obituary.

MR BARON WATSON died suddenly on Tuesday, under circumstances of a very painful nature. The commission of assize for the county of Montgomery was opened on Monday at Welshpool, and Mr Baron Watson having attended divine service at the parish church on Tuesday morning, immediately afterwards opened the court. His lordship had just concluded charging the grand jury, when he put a handkerchief to his face, applied a smelling bottle to his nose, and leaned back in his chair. This being observed, several medical gentlemen who happened to be in court rendered immediate assistance, and every effort was used that medical skill could devise, but the learned baron gradually grew worse, and having been laid upon a sofa cushion was carried out of court to his lodgings, which are only a few yards distant from the court. Pulsation had almost ceased by the time he arrived there, and in a few minutes after he had ceased to breathe. One of his sons happened to be in attendance as marshal, and of course was with him throughout the fatal attack. His lordship had been unwell for several weeks, and he had been persuaded by many of his friends not to undertake the circuit. He took an early walk on Tuesday morning in Powis Castle Park, accompanied by his son, and delivered his charge to the jury in his usually clear and perspicuous manner. The medical gentlemen described the attack as one of serous apoplexy. The business of the court was suspended until the following day. Immediately on the information of the sad event being made known the shops throughout the town were partially closed and the blinds of the private houses drawn, out of respect to the departed judge. The deceased, who was born in 1796, was educated at the Royal Military College, Marlow, and entered the army as cornet in the 1st Royal Dragoons in 1811, became a lieutenant in 1812, and, after having served in Spain and France under the Duke of Wellington, exchanged to the 6th Dragoons, with whom he served in Belgium and France in 1815. Having retired from the army he entered as a student at Lincoln's inn, 1817, and practised for several years as a special pleader, was called to the bar in Lincoln's inn in 1832, made a Q.C. and a bencher of that inn in 1843, and was appointed a Baron of the Court of Exchequer in November, 1856, when he received the honour of knighthood. He was the author of two legal works, was M.P. for Kinsale from 1841 to 1847, and for Hull from 1854 to 1856.

THE COUNTESS GRANVILLE died on Tuesday night, at the Royal Crescent, Brighton. She was the only child and heir of Emeric Joseph, Duke of Dalberg, and was in her forty-ninth year. She married in 1833 Sir F. R. E. Acton, by whom, who died in 1837, she had an only son, Sir J. E. E. Acton, M.P. for Carlisle. Her ladyship married secondly, in 1840, Earl Granville, then Viscount Leveson, and settled in England, where she had ever since been one of the most brilliant ornaments of London society. Her loss will be deeply regretted by a very large circle of friends of all nations and of all classes, to whom her unaffected kindness, her genial wit and unwearied hospitality, had endeared her.

SIR E. A. FERGUSON, BART., M.P. for Londonderry, an old and faithful follower of the Irish Whig Liberal party, died in Dublin on Tuesday, aged sixty-five. He had sat for Londonderry during many Parliaments. It is long since any opposition was offered to his reelection, so universal was his popularity with the constituency of the Maiden City.

MR JAMES GRIFFIN, who was for five and thirty years a member of the Parliamentary reporting corps of the Morning Herald, died on Monday, after a long illness. Mr Griffin, a brother of the gifted author of 'The Collegians' and of 'Gyaispus,' was one of the best known members of the profession to which his life was principally devoted.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—The return of births and deaths in London issued by the Registrar-General states that the health of the people of London is better than it was recently. The mortality has declined, and the deaths have fallen in three weeks from 1,500 to 1,397. The deaths of the consumptive do not appear to be accelerated by cold;

last week the number (143) was below the average. The diseases of the organs of breathing were rife, and were fatal in 387 instances, the corrected average of corresponding weeks being 305. The deaths by these diseases were 23 at the ages of 20-40; 57 at the ages 40-60; and 88 at the ages 60-80. An old man of 101 died in the week. Smallpox was fatal; many children are still deprived of the protection of vaccination. Sixteen persons died of measles; 51 of scarlatina; 9 of diphtheria; 42 of whooping-cough; 33 of typhus, typhoid, or typhine; 15 of diarrhoea; 1 adult of cholera. Eight persons were killed by mechanical violence; 4 by drowning; 13 by suffocation; and 8 by burns. The fires of Smithfield and the Suttie fires of India have been extinguished, but the fires of our own hearths destroy hundreds and deform thousands of English women and children annually. Assuredly some remedy may be found; why are combustible dresses carelessly worn? Eight persons should not be burnt to death, or 10 children be suffocated under the bedclothes and otherwise in seven days. Such deaths can scarcely be considered inevitable accidents. Last week the births of 919 boys and 867 girls, in all 1,786 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1850-59 the average number was 1,768.

THE FREE HOSPITALS.—Royal Free Hospital, Gray's-inn road: The number of patients relieved at this hospital during the week ending March 10, 1860, was 2,833, of which 662 were new cases.—Metropolitan Free Hospital, Devonshire square, City: The aggregate number of patients relieved during the week ending March 10 was—medical, 1,046; surgical, 414; total, 1,460, of which 483 were new cases.—Great Northern Hospital, King's cross: Number of patients for the week ending March 10, 818, of which 360 were new cases.

MILITARY AND NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.

THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF ON OFFICERS' DEBTS TO MESSMEN.—The annexed memorandum has been just issued from the Horse Guards by the Adjutant-General: The General Commanding-in-Chief observes that among the pecuniary embarrassments of young officers, which too often form the subject of complaint to his Royal Highness, debts due to messmen form a considerable portion—not for the mere ordinary mess expenses, but generally for money borrowed to pay sudden and casual demands—until in the aggregate the amount becomes considerable. His Royal Highness has also reason to believe that debts to messmen are sometimes increased by their consenting to charge the messing to the officers' private accounts; and that the certificate required weekly, that all mess debts have been paid, is not always strictly correct. It is incumbent upon commanding officers and upon general officers, at their half-yearly inspections, to ascertain, by personal inquiry from all parties, whether any officer is in debt to the messman, not only for messing, but on any other account. His Royal Highness strictly enjoins commanding officers to prohibit as a breach of good order the reprehensible and unworthy practice of borrowing money from messmen, and recommends that in all mess contracts a clause may be inserted rendering nugatory all such transactions, and binding the messmen with penalties for any infraction of the rule.

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS.—We take the following items of intelligence from the Army and Navy Gazette: We believe that Major-General Sir W. Mansfield has declined the appointment of second in command of the China expedition, to which he was gazetted at home some two or three months since. He will now in all probability remain with Lord Clyde as Chief of the Staff until his resignation, when Sir William will have the chief command at Bombay in succession to Sir H. Rose. It is most probable that Lieut.-General Sir J. Pennefather will succeed General Knollys in the chief command at Aldershot. Lieut.-General Sir G. Wetherall, on being relieved as Adjutant-General by Sir J. Scarlett, will, in all likelihood, be appointed to the command of the Northern District, in succession to Sir J. Pennefather. Major-General the Hon. A. A. Dalzell will succeed Major-General Eden in the command of the Cork district on the 1st of April. Major-General D. A. Cameron proceeds to Edinburgh as Commander-in-Chief in Scotland, in succession to Lord Melville, whose period of service has expired. The brigade at Aldershot, vacated by Major-General the Hon. A. Spencer, and to which Major-General Cameron was appointed, will be commanded by Colonel D. Russell, C.B., formerly of the 84th, and now head of the recruiting department. Another brigade at Aldershot is rendered vacant by Lord W. Paulet's appointment to Portsmouth. The Earl of Cardigan's period of service as Inspector-General of Cavalry having expired, Major-General Lawrenson, now commanding the Cavalry Brigade at Aldershot, will succeed him in that post. Colonel Lord G. Paget, C.B., will have the command of the Cavalry Brigade at Aldershot, vacated by Major-General Lawrenson. Lieut.-General Sir H. Somerset, K.C.B., will resign his command at Bombay, and return home on the 27th of this month.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Monday, March 12.

THE AFFAIRS OF ITALY.

Lord NORMANBY entered at some length into an explanation of a matter personal to himself and Lord Clanricarde in regard to the late debate on Savoy, and in very plain language suggested that the attentions paid to Lord Clanricarde in Italy were not secured by his personal merits, but by his well-known relations with Lord Palmerston.—Lord CLANRICARDE briefly explained the course he had adopted in Italy, which was one for his own private judgment, as he held no official station whatever.

THE COMMERCIAL TREATY.

A conference was then requested by the House of Commons on the bringing up of the address to her Majesty from that house. On the return of the peers who had been appointed to confer, the Duke of ARGYLL brought up the address to her Majesty in favour of the commercial treaty with France agreed to by the House of Commons, after which, Lord TAUNTON gave notice that on Thursday he should move that their lordships should assent to the address.

Tuesday, March 13.

SUNDAY TRADING.

Lord CHELMSFORD, in introducing a bill to amend the law relating to Sunday trading, explained the scope and object of the measure, which was not one of coercion, but of protection, and would not prevent Sunday trading before the hour of divine service. The necessity of such a measure he deduced from numerous petitions from tradesmen on the subject, who complained that in self-defence they were obliged to open their shops on Sunday, and were so prevented from attending divine service.—The bill was read a first time.

Thursday, March 15.

THE COMMERCIAL TREATY WITH FRANCE.

Lord TAUNTON moved that the house concur in the address to the Queen that had come up from the Commons on the subject of the commercial treaty. That treaty had been agreed to almost unanimously by the House of Commons, which again only reflected the opinions of the country. He believed the operation of the treaty

would greatly lessen the chance of hostilities, and if they did occur would meliorate their rigour. It was a great object in a commercial point of view to break down the prohibitive and protective system now existing in France, and for such a matter the government were quite justified in sacrificing revenue and not insisting on counter stipulations. Whether looked at commercially or politically, therefore, he saw in this treaty no evil, but much good, and on that ground he earnestly commended it to the house.—The Earl of CORK seconded the motion.—Earl GREY could not concur in the approbation of the treaty, which he thought was ill-advised, and not likely to effect the purpose of its framers. Though matters had now gone too far to oppose it he must oppose the address, which expressed approbation of its provisions.—Lord WODEHOUSE, at some length, defended the provisions of the treaty, and stated that it assimilated the tariff of France with that of the United States.—The Earl of MALMESBURY contended that this treaty was not a convention between the people of England and the people of France, but between the first minister of the Crown and the French Emperor. Referring to the foreign policy of the Emperor, with especial reference to the threatened annexation of Savoy and Nice, he stated that while from the position he had formerly the honour to occupy he could bear personal testimony to the moderation of the Emperor's conduct, he was compelled to express his regret at the course his Imperial Majesty had recently adopted.—Earl DE GREY and RIPON supported the principles on which the treaty was founded, and believed that it would draw closer the bonds of amity between the two countries.—Earl STANHOPE was a strong advocate of the French alliance, but could not see how it would be strengthened by a treaty such as that which was now before them.—Lord OVERSTONE objected to the treaty that its advantages would remain generally with the foreigner, and that as a whole it would place England in a dangerous position without being of material benefit to France. He thought it was a dangerous experiment to repeal duties which, whatever was the emergency, they could not reimpose, and to remove duties for which the only substitute was the income-tax that was only imposed for one year. He thought that, far from reducing the income-tax next year, it would then be increased from twopenny to a shilling.—The Duke of ARGYLL supported the motion.—The Earl of DERBY said that on the calculation of the Chancellor of the Exchequer himself there would be a deficit next year of 11,000,000*l.* sterling, which could only be made up by an increased income-tax. In fact, this budget appeared to be intended to render the income-tax an essential and necessary source of our permanent income, and therefore he looked upon it as fraught with danger to the country. On these grounds he objected to the treaty on which the budget was founded, as an impolitic arrangement for this country, and still more because it committed us to the appearance of concurring in the Imperial policy with regard to the annexation of Savoy, which unsettled all the foundations of Europe. The apprehension of danger to France from Sardinia, unless Savoy were ceded, the noble earl treated as a mere pretext, and as a pretext that would fill every court in Europe with alarm, for such pretexts could never be wanting. Still he thought matters had gone too far now to recede, but, though the treaty might be acquiesced in, he could not approve of it. A majority against the government might give rise to misapprehension, and therefore he would suggest to the noble earl (Grey) not to divide, but if he did, he would at the risk of misrepresentation divide along with him.—The LORD CHANCELLOR then addressed a few words to the house on the part of the government.—Lord CHELMSFORD objected to the part of the treaty which related to coal, and the Earl of HARDWICKE to that which related to ships.—The Duke of NEWCASTLE denied that this commercial treaty would at all influence the conduct of the government with respect to the annexation of Savoy. He then entered into a defence of the different provisions of the treaty, which he hoped would cement the friendly intercourse between the two countries.—Their lordships then divided, when the resolution in favour of the address was carried by a majority of 68 to 38.

Friday, March 16.

THE ANNEXATION OF SAVOY.

After a conversation on the duties of a British fleet as respects political fugitives, with reference to the state of affairs at Naples, Lord CARNARVON inquired whether the government were in possession of any information as to a telegram received that day, which declared that Sardinia has agreed to carry out the annexation of Savoy to France by a special treaty with that nation, that the great powers should not be consulted till after the transaction, and that Switzerland was not to be consulted at all on the subject. If these assertions were authentic, they were diametrically opposed to two despatches from Count Cavour and Lord Cowley of the respective dates of the 3rd and 9th March. He also asked whether the promised despatch of M. Thouvenel, which was to throw a new light on the annexation of Savoy, was yet in the hands of the government.—The Duke of NEWCASTLE strongly objected to the practice of putting questions to the government on no other authority than newspaper telegrams. There was no doubt that great and flagrant discrepancies existed between the despatches and the telegrams, but the government could know nothing more than any other member of the house. In regard to the second question, the despatch of M. Thouvenel had been received within the last twenty-four hours, and her Majesty's government had not yet decided whether it could be laid on the table of the house.—Lord MALMESBURY acknowledged the right of the government to refuse to answer questions, but could not allow that noble lords should forego the privilege of putting them.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Monday, March 12.

NORWICH ELECTION.

The report of the committee on the Norwich election petition was brought up, declaring that Viscount Bury had not been duly elected, and that the last was a void election.

EXPORT DUTY ON RAGS FROM FRANCE.

Lord J. RUSSELL, in reply to Mr Puller, stated that her Majesty's Ambassador at Paris had communicated to the English government that it was the intention of the French government to impose an export duty upon rags from France when the existing prohibition has been removed, but he could not say what would be the amount of duty. He also observed that steps would be taken by her Majesty's ministers for obtaining a free export of rags from other countries in which the export is now either prohibited or restricted by heavy duties.

ANNEXATION OF SAVOY AND NICE.

Lord J. MANNERS inquired whether the government had received any further information from Paris with regard to the intentions of the French Emperor upon the subject of the annexation of Savoy and Nice to France, and whether Lord J. Russell was still of opinion that his Imperial Majesty intended to consult the great powers of Europe upon the subject.—Lord J. RUSSELL replied that he had received information from our ambassador at Paris to the effect that he was engaged in the preparation of a despatch upon the subject, which he hoped to be able to forward to this country either to-morrow or Wednesday. He could only add, in answer to the other question of the noble lord, that he had no doubt the opinions of the great powers of Europe would have due weight with his Imperial Majesty.

In answer to Mr Disraeli, Lord J. RUSSELL said he should move the second reading of the reform bill on Monday next, no arrangement having been made by the government to allow Mr Kinglake's motion with regard to Savoy for that evening.—Mr KINGLAKE complained that he had certainly understood that the government would give him an early day for the discussion of his resolution, and that he regarded their unwillingness to do so as something approaching to a breach of faith.—Lord J. RUSSELL denied that he had in any way led the hon. member to suppose that the government would give him a day for his motion; on the contrary, he had said that it would be injurious to the public service to take the discussion at the present moment. If, however, there was any party in the house who were of opinion that it was the duty of her Majesty's government to go to war with France to prevent the annexation of Savoy, the best way to proceed would be to found a motion on the subject. This would be a candid and straightforward course, and far preferable to continuing irritating and aimless discussions calculated to imperil the friendly relations subsisting between France and England, and injurious to the best interests of the country.—Mr DISRAELI contended that it was absolutely necessary that there should be a discussion on the subject of Savoy, in order that the house might know how far the policy of the Emperor of the French had been occasioned and favoured by her Majesty's government. It appeared to him that their conduct was involved in great mystery, and that explanations were desirable.—Lord PALMERSTON said he quite agreed with Lord John Russell in condemning discussions intermixed with personalities and angry animadversions on the conduct of the Emperor of the French. If the right hon. gentleman or any other member thought fit to propose a vote of censure upon the government for the course they had pursued, the government would be quite prepared to meet it. He thought, however, that it should be clearly explained whether those who wished to bring the question of Savoy again before the house did so with the view of merely expressing censure on the conduct of the French government, or of asking the house to pass a vote of censure on her Majesty's ministers.—Sir J. PAKINGTON intimated that nothing was further from the intention of Mr Disraeli than to move a vote of censure; all that was wanted was an explanation with respect to such portions of the papers on the table as involved their proceedings in reference to the annexation.—Mr HORSMAN said that the remarks of Lord John Russell were calculated to alarm the house and the country with regard to this subject. A great responsibility rested on the house, for it had allowed itself to be left in unprecedented ignorance on foreign affairs, and especially as regarded Savoy. Not a word had been said on the subject of the communications made to Russia, Austria, and Prussia. He should like to know to which of the two parties holding the opinions on this question which the noble lord had sketched the ministry belonged. Might there not be differences in this respect in the cabinet itself? Mr Kinglake must decide on his course, and must not be deterred from doing so by any fear of being left in a minority.—Mr GLADSTONE denied that the government had been chary of information on their foreign policy, for they afforded it as rapidly as they received it. As to indifference in the cabinet, he could only ascribe this notion of Mr Horsman on this point to the friendly interest which he must feel for them all. That point would easily be tested when any motion was brought forward questioning their conduct. He objected also to continuous but purposeless discussion on the subject of Savoy; but, to any motion pointing at the conduct of the government, they would be ready to give every opportunity for discussion; and, indeed, Lord J. Russell would on the following day present papers relating to Italy, and make a statement on the general subject.—Mr SEYMOUR FITZGERALD repudiated any intention on the part of those with whom he acted to propose a vote of censure on the government. So far from having any such design, all they wished was to elicit from the government such information with reference to their policy as would enable them to give their full confidence and support to her Majesty's advisers!

ABOLITION OF THE PAPER DUTY.

On the order for the second reading of the paper duty repeal bill, Sir W. MILES objected to the repeal of this duty at the present time, and in the present state of our finances. He could not consider the repeal of the paper duty, he said, apart from a 10*l.* income-tax, and he showed from calculations, founded mainly upon the figures contained in Mr Gladstone's financial speech, that, by retaining this duty, which yielded 1,200,000*l.*, and not imposing the additional 1*l.* income-tax, the surplus at the end of the year, which Mr Gladstone had estimated at 464,000*l.*, would still be not less than 429,000*l.* He discussed the alleged difficulties attending the collection of the duty and the arguments urged in favour of its repeal, in particular, that the tax was detrimental to the spread of knowledge, contending that, though papermakers and publishers might be benefited by its repeal, generally speaking, it would not be felt by consumers. He then called attention to the heavy pressure of the income-tax—a tax which, he said, ought never to be used but in times of great emergency, especially upon persons receiving less than 150*l.* a-year, who could not be benefited by the cheapening of French wines and French silks, and asked whether this was a time for augmenting so severe a burden for the mere purpose of taking off the paper duty. He moved as an amendment a resolution, that, as it appeared that the repeal of the paper duty would necessitate the addition of 1*l.* in the pound to the property and income-tax, it was the opinion of the house that such repeal was, under such circumstances, at the present moment inexpedient.—Mr STANHOPE, in supporting the amendment, urged strongly the impolicy of sacrificing so large a revenue for an object from which the community would derive but little advantage, the price of books and the circulation of literature being very little affected by the duty on paper. To the argument for the repeal of the duty, that it had been condemned by a resolution of that house, he opposed the fact that the income-tax had been condemned by act of parliament. Such an argument, if valid in one case was equally so in the other. The question was whether, in order to take off a tax which might be burdensome to a small part of the community, they would add in time of peace to an odious burden.—Mr NORRIS opposed the amendment. In reply to the assertion that the paper duty was not an element of cost in books, he insisted that, in many of the cheaper classes of books used in schools this duty added from five to twenty per cent. to the price paid by the purchaser. He referred to the admission of the Commissioners of Inland Revenue, that the collection of the duty, owing to the difficulty of defining what paper is, was beset with embarrassments.—Mr A. MILLS observed that the question was, not whether either of the taxes was a good one, but whether an income-tax of 10*l.* should be imposed that the paper duty should now be repealed. Objectionable as he considered the excise on paper, it was in his opinion utterly inexplicable that the house should impose an enormous tax on the whole body of the people for the benefit of a particular class of the community. He cordially supported the resolution.—Mr BLACK contended that the extra penny of income tax was a more ready and economical mode of obtaining a million or so of revenue than the paper duty. It was absolutely certain that the repeal of the duty would cause a decrease in the price of books. It often happened that an unsuccessful author who was at the expense of publishing his own work paid some 30*l.* to the excise.—Mr MAGUIRE said that Sir W. Miles's statement that a number of paper-mills had stopped was the strongest argument against this duty, as it proved that only monopolists and very large capitalists could stand against it. It was most unfair to argue that the additional penny to the income-tax was referable to the repeal of the paper duty alone, and without regard to the general scheme of the budget. In Ireland, a country peculiarly adapted by its streams, and by an

abundance of the raw material, for the manufacture of paper, this tax had pressed ruinously on the trade; out of seven mills in a district near Cork, existing within a recent period, only one now remained. There was a large smuggling trade in the article of paper going on, and especially in the inferior sorts of paper, the trade in which would be materially benefited by the remission of the duty.—Lord R. CECIL observed that what the house had to decide was, whether they preferred the paper duty or a penny income-tax. In his opinion, the duty had marks upon it which placed it low in the list of duties which should be remitted. Its repeal would have no sensible effect upon the diffusion of knowledge and education, though it might benefit paper-makers and publishers. Why was it an untenable tax? It was increasing, not falling off. The Commissioners of Inland Revenue objected to it because of the difficult cases which were brought before them. But he looked upon their report as made to order. He diverged into details upon the subjects of direct and indirect taxation, arguing that, according to every principle of sound finance, all classes ought to pay alike, and, if so, the indirect taxation of the country ought to be increased, not diminished, and therefore the paper duty should not be repealed.—Mr M. GIBSON said, after the commercial treaty with France had been agreed to by the house, which had approved the general policy of the financial scheme of the government, that fiscal arrangements should be made to give remissions of indirect taxation, the question now was, not between the paper duty and the income-tax, but between the former and some other branch of indirect taxation. Why did the government select the paper duty? After a careful review of our indirect taxation, they could not overlook this duty, and they found that for the last twenty-five years those who were entitled to the greatest weight in parliament had looked forward to its repeal as an object to be accomplished as soon as possible. The resolution of the house that this duty was not to be a permanent source of our taxation was part of a long, uniform system of condemnation which the duty had received, and the government would have been culpable if they had given this resolution the go-by. He complained of the reflection cast by Lord R. Cecil upon the report of the Commissioners of Inland Revenue; the question was, he remarked, as to the truth of the report. He maintained that the report was true, and that if the duty was to be retained a bill must be introduced to define what paper was, including in the definition articles which came in competition with paper, but which now escaped the duty. The question, after all, was whether the tax itself was of that character that its retention should be desired. The production of paper was less in this country than in the United States, where there was an absence of all restrictions. What was the reason of the crippled state of the manufacture here? He believed that the Excise survey and restrictions had something to do with it. The lamentation over the want of rags was not new. He believed that the repeal of the paper duty would create a demand for the raw material, and that a supply would meet the demand. Flax fibre and other products of the land might be applied to this purpose, and become a source of profit to the agricultural and farming interest. He showed the oppressive effects of the duty upon the cheap press, by eating up its profits, and suggested the influence which its impoverishment must exert upon its quality. In this view, the paper duty was really a tax upon knowledge, while it operated as an obstacle to the reward and the enterprise of authors.—Mr HORSMAN observed that Mr Gibson had not said one word upon the principle of the bill, which, under the semblance of a measure dealing with a single duty, was in reality a proposal for a change of vast importance, not only on account of the principles it involved, but of the consequences to which it would lead. Having a million of taxes to remit, instead of relinquishing the tea and sugar war duties, the Chancellor of the Exchequer preferred to remit the paper duty, because it would increase employment. But so would the remission of the tea and sugar duties. The difference was that the one affected a rich class and the other the labouring classes. It was of the greatest importance—socially, morally, and politically—that the latter should receive the best wages; and, if their money payment could not be increased, the remission of the taxes on tea and sugar would enable them to buy more of these articles, or to raise themselves in the social scale. The question, then, was whether most benefit would be conferred by remitting the tea and sugar duties, or the paper duty. He said the object would be best attained by remitting the former, and he warned the house of the false principle and the mischievous precedent they were establishing. They could not rest here. Fresh demands would be made for other remissions; a premium would be given for the agitation of classes. This small precedent of filling up a deficiency by a remission of an indirect tax, and laying on a direct tax,—shifting the whole burden of taxation upon one class,—would effect a complete fiscal revolution. He concluded a speech replete with point and sarcasm with some severe remarks, approaching to acrimony, directed against Mr Gladstone, and by denouncing the bill as a flagrant abandonment of the principles of Sir Robert Peel.—The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER characterised Mr Horsman's speech, both as regarded its personality and its argument on the question, as so extravagant as to require no reply or confutation, except the opinion that must be formed of its absurdity. The argument was not directed to the motion, but raised the question between the paper duty and the tea and sugar duties. The repeal of the paper duty was recommended by peculiar and remarkable incidents; and the article with which it dealt was one of large consumption by the poorer class, and which was taxed to the extent of thirty to forty per cent., while it was a large element of consumption in trade and manufacture. He produced a specimen of corrugated paper, which was admirably adapted for roofing houses; and pointed out this as one of the many uses to which paper might be and would be put but for the excise duty. He showed that the policy of Sir R. Peel was to repeal and not merely to reduce duties, and excise duties in particular. He pointed out that his was peculiarly the moment at which the pledge of the house for the repeal of this duty might be fulfilled. The increase in the amount of duty was caused by the increase in trade, to which paper, in the shape of wrappers, was a considerable accessory. Having entered into a statement of the effect of duty on books, newspapers, and literature, which assisted in the monopoly of printers, which, among other things, excluded women from that calling, he vindicated the Board of Inland Revenue from the imputation cast upon them that they had issued a report made to order, and stated that that opinion had greatly influenced him in his proposal to repeal the duty. He dealt with the subject of the demand for labour which the proposed change would cause; he argued the question whether the remission of indirect taxation should or should not be carried further, and urged that the only question now was to what object the remission of a million should be applied, and he contended that the case for the paper duty was the strongest.—Sir J. PAKINGTON supported the amendment on the ground that to repeal a tax producing so large and important a source of revenue in order to confer a signal benefit on a class, was unwise and unstatesmanlike.—The house then divided, when the amendment was negatived by 245 to 192. The bill was then read a second time.

Tuesday, March 13.

THE TREATY WITH FRANCE.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL, in reply to Mr Newdegate, said that article 5 of the commercial treaty would admit to this country goods, not only the produce of France and Algeria, but of all countries.

THE STATE OF DHAS (INDIA).

Lord STANLEY asked what steps had been taken by Lord Canning for the restoration of the state of Dhas to its native rulers.—

Sir C. WOOD stated that, notwithstanding the remonstrances of Lord Canning, the Indian government had determined to adhere substantially to Lord Stanley's decision to restore the state to its rulers, and had sent a despatch to the Governor-General desiring him to carry their orders into effect.

THE AFFAIRS OF ITALY.

In moving that certain papers relating to the affairs of Italy be laid upon the table, Lord J. RUSSELL entered into an explanation of the conduct of the government in relation to those affairs. He began by representing the state in which the question of Savoy and Nice had been left by the late administration, and proceeded to vindicate the present government from the accusation that they had pursued a policy which, by promoting the annexation of the Romagna and Tuscany to Sardinia, laid a ground for that of Savoy to France. This accusation was founded, he said, upon an entire misapprehension. Their policy had been to endeavour by negotiation to secure to the Italian people the power of managing their own affairs. He then explained the communications which had taken place on the subject of certain proposed combinations for the restoration of the Grand Duke of Tuscany, and the establishment of a kingdom of Central Italy. The British government, he observed, were not hostile to either; they wished the people of Italy to decide for themselves; to assert their independence of any power whatever, and, if they thought proper, to unite themselves to Sardinia. It had been said that for a long time he had acquiesced in the design of France to annex Savoy, and that he took no step in the matter until late in the month of January. But this was a mistake of dates. On the 5th of July he had stated what he considered would be the consequences to the Emperor of the French if the plan of annexing Savoy was carried into effect, in the general distrust it would create. But, according to Count Walewski, no such plan was then contemplated, and, the contingency he referred to being improbable, it was unnecessary for him (Lord John) to say that, supposing the Grand Duke of Tuscany not to be restored, and a kingdom of Central Italy not to be formed, he must reiterate the declaration he had made. In January, however, the question had assumed a different shape, showing that there was a project on foot for the annexation of Savoy, and at the end of that month the government renewed the expression of its fears as to the consequences of the measure. It had been objected, he continued, that the government had been so anxious for the independence of Italy that they had neglected other objects. But in 1856 Lord Clarendon had thought the question of the state of Italy of so much importance that he brought it before the conference, and later occurrences had induced the government to consider it one of European interest, and, if so, of British interest. It was for European objects that they had employed the influence of Great Britain, and employed it peacefully, to reconcile differences, prevent war, and lay the foundation of peace between the great powers of Europe. If, in doing so, they could enable Italy to regain her independence, and raise a country, which had for three centuries been sunk and degraded, into one of the leading powers of Europe, so far from being ashamed, and shrinking from any responsibility, he should always take a pride in having been allowed to participate in such an object. —Mr WHITESIDE adverted to the repeated warnings given by Switzerland, which, he observed, had always seemed to know what was about to happen, that a bargain had been struck between France and Sardinia for handing over Savoy and Nice to the former power, and that this question was of vital importance to the safety and independence of Switzerland. The British government, however, had done nothing in consequence of these repeated warnings, and, although Lord Cowley, in the month of January, wrote for instructions, up to the 28th there was nothing to show what the government thought or did on the subject. On that day Lord J. Russell wrote a very good despatch; but in that despatch he did not make a remonstrance founded upon the general law of Europe. He went through some of the papers laid before the house, with the view of showing that the French government had very frankly declared its views that if Sardinia was aggrandized by the addition of Tuscany and the Romagna France must have Savoy and Nice; and he contended that the government had laboured to bring about this contingency. Mr M. MILNES defended the conduct of Count Cavour in the matter of annexation, and said he had consented to the cession of Savoy only on the condition of Piedmont obtaining possession of the Quadrilateral, and that it was a new demand on the part of the French Emperor to ask it as compensation for Tuscany. —Mr B. COCHRANE asked on what ground the people of the Ionian Islands were to be denied the right of choosing their own government whilst it was claimed for the people of Italy? And the same argument would apply to the Emperor of the French in his attempt to annex Savoy. There was nothing to show that the people of Savoy desired annexation, and if it were once made he wanted to know where it would stop. —Mr HORSMAN said he believed the house would be unanimous in thinking that the annexation of Savoy should not be made a cause of war. But the question was whether France would not thereby acquire a new military frontier for a great military power. The treaties of 1815 were securities taken by the great powers of Europe against the traditional policy of France—a policy of war and aggrandizement—and what right had Sardinia to liberate France from obligations for the protection of Europe? Then what was to be done? Had Sardinia no alternative but war or acquiescence? Lord J. Russell, in his despatch, had referred to the Rhine and to Belgium; then, if we apprehended danger, the policy of this country was to take precautions and form alliances with other powers. This was the traditional policy of this country, to form alliances in order to check aggression and the preponderance of any great power, and he thought the government would have done wisely upon this occasion by entering into such an alliance. Instead of this they had busied themselves with a commercial treaty of France. The policy of tame acquiescence would be a dangerous and an unworthy policy; the other would place us in a dignified attitude before the world. —Lord H. VANE suggested, as he understood Mr Kinglake intended to make a substantive motion on this subject at a future day, it was not desirable to carry the present discussion further. At the same time he must express his regret that so much of this important discussion should be carried on in private letters. This practice had given an evil reputation to our diplomacy on the continent. —Lord PALMERSTON said the course which the government had pursued in this matter was much more clear and consistent than Mr Whiteside had represented. It was plain that this was not a case upon which the issue of peace or war ought to depend. The cession of Savoy did not involve the interests of this country so as to induce us to go to war to prevent it. As regarded England, France would not be stronger after the acquisition of Savoy than before. If this was agreed upon, it was clear that some of the measures recommended in the debate would not be expedient. To enter into alliances with the great powers of Europe, unless the matter was of sufficient importance, would inspire alarm, and rouse the national feeling in France. Her Majesty's government, when it appeared that no Congress would take place, and there would be no opportunity to bring the matter into discussion in the assembly of the great powers, stated to France and to the other powers their objection to the measure. He thought it would be a great mistake in the French government if they persisted in the plan of annexation, and it would be a glorious act on the part of France if, after having restored independence to Italy, it was content with the renown of that generous enterprise without mixing it up with so small an object. The reasons assigned for the annexation he thought insufficient, and the objection felt by the British government was not founded upon what they considered British interest, but upon the danger to Europe of the president and of the principles,—those of

natural boundaries and the identity of language,—upon which the annexation was justified. As it was not to be done without the consent of the Sovereign and people of Savoy, and the assent of the great powers of Europe, we were not come to the point when we were authorised to hold that reflection might not induce the government of France to abandon the design. In the opinion of the government this was a question of European interest, and he could not help thinking that other governments would take the same view as our own, and that the government of France would find that it would gain more by preserving the good opinion of Europe than by the acquisition of this small territory. It was said, why not apply the principles to the Ionian Islands which they applied to the Italian duchies? The answer was that we had not run away from the Ionian Islands as the dukes had run away from the Italian duchies. On this point he congratulated the house on the intelligence just received, that Tuscany had by her vote determined to annex herself to Sardinia, from which he anticipated a glorious future for Central Italy. —Mr DISRAELI said this discussion was a complete justification of his remarks on the day before. For himself he had never said that this was a case for war or for hostile alliances, or even for protest. He complained that Lord J. Russell had made no reply to his observations the other night, and had made no defence of his long apathy with regard to Savoy. Not only had he omitted to remonstrate with France, but up to the 6th of last month the Prussian government appeared from the papers to have been left in ignorance as to the views of England. The Prime Minister said these questions were all to have been settled at the congress. But all hope of a congress, at least among sane men, had vanished by the end of December, but nothing whatever appeared to have been done by our government till the 27th of January. More than that. It was now known that Lord Cowley had, in his private letters, informed the government that the annexation of Tuscany to Piedmont would determine the French government to annex Savoy. But the government, when they proposed to foreign courts to sanction the annexation of Tuscany, omitted to inform them what they well knew would be the consequence, that it must lead to the annexation of Savoy. The policy of France had all through been frank and straightforward. She had given England timely notice of her intentions, and had always shown a willingness to renounce Savoy, if Piedmont were not aggrandised. But this announcement to the government was concealed from this house and from Europe by the unconstitutional practice of correspondence with a minister by private letters. He referred to the alarming picture which Lord J. Russell had drawn in his despatches of the policy of the French Emperor, and asked how, in the face of such a description, the Foreign Secretary could say that the house was not to discuss it. There could be no doubt that that policy was a perilous one, and required the vigilant attention of this house. He could only say that if the picture drawn by the Foreign Secretary were realised—if dynasties were overthrown and Europe convulsed, the responsibility would rest on that minister who had helped him to accomplish it. —Mr KINGLAKE indignantly denied that he intended by his conduct to stir up war, and he considered it was most offensive to say that members of this house must either declare for war or be silent. His objection to Lord J. Russell's despatches was that there was a want of reality about them, and as such they were totally disregarded by the French government. —Mr S. FITZGERALD pointed out the ambiguous language of the Foreign Secretary at the opening of parliament, when he stated in answer to questions that France had abandoned her designs on Savoy from the July previous, while at the very time he had Lord Cowley's letters in his possession intimating that those claims were renewed. He did not impute duplicity to the noble lord, but it showed the mischief that arose from the practice of corresponding in private letters, which he hoped would never again occur. And now he thought the French Emperor might fairly say that the English government had assented to his policy, since he had informed them of his designs as far back as October last, and they not only did not remonstrate, but urged on the policy which they knew would revive his claim. And now, in spite of what the Prime Minister said, he contended that the French government were resolved to annex Savoy without either consulting the people of Savoy or the great powers of Europe. —Mr B. OSBORNE remarked on the change in the tone of Mr Fitzgerald on this occasion as compared with that he adopted in a previous debate, in which he denounced the Emperor of the French by name, and was for reviving a holy alliance against France. He (Mr Osborne) did not think that there had been any deceit on the part of the Emperor, but if there had been any deceit, it was on the part of the Sardinians, and the whole business was probably the result of intervention. He did not think this country had any interest in preventing the annexation of Savoy, and as to the treaties of 1815 they had been broken over and over again. He did not desire to see this country interfere to build up a kingdom in Central Italy, for the more we did so the more excuse we gave to France for aggrandisement. —Lord J. RUSSELL having briefly replied, the subject dropped.

PETERBOROUGH ELECTION.

The report of the Peterborough election committee was brought up, stating that Mr Whalley was duly elected, that there had been bribery at the election, but not with the knowledge of the sitting member. Colonel SYKES was moving for certain papers connected with the reorganization of the Indian army when the house was counted out.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

PACKET AND TELEGRAPHIC COMMITTEE.—By Captain L. VERNON: That on the 27th of March he would call the attention of the house to the report of this committee, and move a resolution thereon.

REFORM BILL.—BALLOT.—By Mr T. DUNCOMBE: That in committee on the reform bill he would move a clause, conferring on certain conditions on the electors of the United Kingdom the option of voting by means of the ballot.

Wednesday, March 14.

RELIGIOUS WORSHIP BILL.

Mr LOCKE KING moved the second reading of this bill, the object of which was to permit clergymen belonging to the established church to hold religious services according to the forms of the church at places not consecrated for the purpose. It was contended that non-conforming bodies enjoyed a privilege with regard to freedom which the clergy of the church of England were precluded from. —Mr WALPOLE believed that the house concurred in the desire of Mr Locke King to extend the preaching of the gospel among the masses in districts where spiritual destitution existed; but if this bill were to pass into law it would give a right to any person in the church of England to preach and administer the sacrament possibly in a manner contrary to the peace of the parish. It would in a measure destroy the parochial system. Confusion and disturbance would be the result, and the house would be pestered with constant appeals for its interposition to prevent religious scandal. —Lord R. CECIL questioned the accuracy of Mr Walpole's remark that the house generally concurred in the desire to promote the preaching of the gospel, inasmuch as there were four gentlemen of the Hebrew profession occupying seats in the house who could not possibly concur in any such desire. Indeed, since their admission to the house any discussion on, or attempt to promote, Christianity there was out of place, and an insult to those hon. members. The present measure would have the effect of sweeping away the only power left the episcopacy, that of inhibition; and any clergyman of the church of England might, under its provisions, do anything he chose in defiance

of the bishop of the diocese. He contended, moreover, that such a revolutionary step in connection with the church of England ought not to be brought before the house at a morning sitting. —Sir F. GOLDSMID said he would have refrained from taking any part in the debate but for the observations which had fallen from the last speaker. The noble lord could not understand that, whilst persons of his persuasion were desirous of liberty for their own religious faith, they were equally anxious that the members of the Christian religion should be afforded every means of enjoying the advantages and promoting the interests of their creed; and he himself, in the discharge of the social and relative duties which devolved upon him, had never hesitated to act on that principle. —The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said he had heard with regret the observations which had fallen from Lord R. Cecil, and the untenable doctrine he had laid down with regard to the effect of admitting members of the Jewish persuasion to seats in parliament. The opinions enunciated by the noble lord would be as applicable to every other member who happened not to be connected with the established church. He denied that any injury had ensued to the interests of the Christian religion from the admission of the members of any denomination to that house; and he could bear testimony to the manner in which gentlemen who did not belong to the church had abstained from taking any course which was calculated to weaken or destroy the national establishment. He hoped that the bill in its present form would not be persisted in, and that hon. members who objected to its provisions as they stood would not be put in the false position of appearing to vote against the extension of the preaching of the gospel. —Mr HORSFALL was of opinion that the plan proposed by the bill was necessary, with a view to the extended use of the church of England service. He denied that it would interfere with the parochial system, although it might interfere with a kind of ultra-parochialism which had grown up of late years. —Mr AYRTON supported, and Mr CROSS recommended Mr Locke King to withdraw, the bill. —Mr E. P. BOUVERIE moved, as an amendment, that the bill be read a second time that day six months. The hon. member said he was induced to take this course because he believed it would "throw the church into an inextricable mess." —Mr ADDERLEY was opposed to allowing clergymen of the church of England to perform divine service in any private house or large building without the license of the bishop of the diocese. —Sir G. C. LEWIS protested against the doctrine which had been laid down by Lord R. Cecil, as to the effect upon legislation by introducing members of the Jewish persuasion to the house. The prophecy which was made at the time, that the result would be to unchristianise the legislature, had been falsified, and, so far as he could see, there had been no disposition exhibited on the part of those gentlemen to press their peculiar religious views upon the attention of the house. —Mr BAINES, Lord ASHLEY, and Colonel SYKES supported the bill. —On a division, the second reading was negatived by 168 to 131.

The adulteration of food and drink bill passed through committee, after an unsuccessful attempt had been made to extend its provisions to Ireland.

CLARE COUNTY ELECTION.

The chairman of this election committee brought up their report which stated that the committee was unanimously determined that, Colonel Luke White was not duly elected.

Thursday, March 15.

REGISTRATION OF VOTERS.

In answer to Mr Duncombe, Lord J. RUSSELL said he had no intention to introduce any measure during the present session to render the registration of voters more frequent.

DRAWBACK ON WINE DUTIES.

Sir S. NORTHCOTE inquired whether any arrangement had been made with the wine merchants regarding a drawback on the duty on wine. —The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER replied that the wine merchants were now engaged in considering the subject. They had thought fit to call a general meeting of the trade, giving notice to all dealers throughout the country. They had informed him that they would not be able to hold the meeting before Tuesday, and until that meeting had been held he should not be able to make a communication to the house.

BANKRUPTCY AND INSOLVENCY.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved for leave to bring in a bill to amend and consolidate the laws relating to bankruptcy and insolvency in England. The real difficulty attending a reform of this part of our law arose, he observed, not from the intricacy of the subject, but because the ground was encumbered by the relics of former attempts at legislation. The result was that no country had so bad a law as ours. Yet nothing ought to be more simple. All that was required was a tribunal to ascertain the extent of the rights of those who were interested in the property surrendered by the creditor, and a machinery for realising the property and for its distribution among the persons entitled to it. Nevertheless, at present, the expense of a bankruptcy amounted to very nearly thirty-three per cent. of the assets of the debtor. He then proceeded to explain the alterations he proposed to introduce. He premised that he thought it desirable for the present not to abolish entirely imprisonment for debt. The first evil which called for a remedy was the monstrous anomaly of having two different modes of dealing with the estates of bankrupts and insolvents, and he proposed, following in the steps of high authorities, to abolish entirely the distinction between the law of insolvency and of bankruptcy, and to make one law applicable to both. He proposed that every insolvent should be entitled to present a petition to be adjudged a bankrupt; that, if he should be unable to bear the expense, he might be brought up and petition *in forma pauperis*, and that persons refusing to surrender their property should, after remaining in prison for fourteen days, be adjudged bankrupts, and be subject to the law. These three provisions would practically have the effect of abolishing a lengthened imprisonment for debt, insolvency being merged in bankruptcy. Then he had thought it right, he said, in order to include non-traders, instead of the technical acts which now constituted bankruptcy, to substitute a few plain and simple but unmistakable tests of insolvency. The next great evil was the manner in which the administration of the law was provided for. At present, the five judges in the Court of Bankruptcy united the judicial and the administrative functions. But there was no necessity whatever for five administrators, and he proposed to sweep away the commissioners in London altogether (their salaries being continued to them, on condition that they should be prepared to assist in cases of emergency), and to substitute one judge, armed with the powers of a court of equity and a court of common law, with corresponding emolument. He then explained the provisions for appeals from the country courts, the course of procedure, the taking of evidence, and the examination of accounts. He proposed that, in the London district, there should be an auxiliary or assistant court for cases in which the estates did not exceed 300l. With respect to the country districts, he could not, he said, satisfactorily intrust this jurisdiction in all cases, at present, to the judges of the county courts, and he proposed to empower her Majesty, by order in council, to parcel out and make a new arrangement and distribution of districts, so that there might be a gradual absorption of this jurisdiction by the county courts. The Attorney-General then entered minutely into the subordinate provisions and machinery of the bill. It would provide, he said, for cases in which creditors resorting to the Court of Bankruptcy for any particular purposes, might desire to take the estate out of its hands, which a

majority of three-fourths of the creditors might do at any time, and make a private arrangement. It would provide for compositions and arrangements, by enabling a debtor to assign his property to trustees by a deed that should be registered in the Court of Bankruptcy, the creditors being placed in the same position as if the debtor had been adjudged a bankrupt. After stating the provisions made for meeting the charges of the new system, he explained the modes of procedure that would be adopted for the administration of the assets of a bankrupt, the relative functions of the official assignees and the creditors' assignees, and the salaries of the former, which he proposed to fix at 800*l.* a year, with power to the judge to augment the amount according to the work done, until it attained the maximum of 1,500*l.* The criminal jurisdiction over bankrupts he proposed to leave to the criminal courts, the commissioner in bankruptcy being empowered to suspend the discharge of the debtor.—Sir F. Kelly, Mr James, Mr Bowyer, Mr Malins, the Solicitor-General, Mr Bazley, and other members made remarks upon the proposed measures, and offered suggestions. Leave was given to introduce the bill.

CUSTOMS ACTS.

In a committee on the customs acts, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER moved an amended resolution reducing the duty on hops imported from the 1st of January, 1861 (not under treaty)—viz., until the 1st of January, 1862, 20*s.* the cwt., and on and after that date 18*s.* the cwt.—Mr DODSON moved to amend the resolution, by omitting the words after "20*s.* the cwt.," and adding "from and after which date (1st of January, 1862) the duty shall absolutely cease;" his object being, he said, to leave the question, whether the excise duty on hops should be continued, "open for future consideration."—The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER opposed this amendment, which was negatived upon a division, and the resolution was agreed to, as well as a resolution imposing a duty of 1*s.* per ton on foreign and colonial built ships.—On the order for the further consideration of the report on the customs acts, Mr LYGON moved the adjournment of the debate; but this motion was negatived upon a division. The consideration of the report was, however deferred.

NOTICE OF MOTION.

BOROUGH OF NORWICH.—By Mr T. DUNCOMBE: That he would on Monday move that a new writ issue for an election for the borough of Norwich.

Friday, March 16.

MISCELLANEOUS SUBJECTS.

Before the commencement of public business, upon the call of Mr Bright, Mr NEWDEGATE entered into a long explanation, or rather exposition, of certain opinions he had expressed of the political views and sentiments of Mr Cobden.—On the motion for adjournment till Monday, a long array of subjects, fourteen in number, stood on the notice paper for discussion, comprising the burial of a dead body found in Kent without an inquest; the Nabobs of the Carnatic; the extension of the Royal Military College at Sandhurst; the India-house Museum; the treatment of the destitute Irish in England; the extension of our trade with Central Asia; the reduction in the establishment of the Custom-house and Inland revenue; the amalgamation of the Indian and Royal armies; the French fortifications on the island of St Pierre; religious persecution of British subjects resident in Spain; the sale of gas; wine licenses; and the answer of Lord J. Russell to the despatch of Lord Bloomfield, our ambassador at Berlin, dated the 3rd of March, respecting the overture of Prussia on the annexation of Savoy and Nice to France. Each of these subjects were broached, and most of them were to a limited extent debated. With reference to the subject last named, Mr KINGLAKE urged the production of the document in question as a most important one; and Sir R. PEEL quoted a declaration of Baron Schleinitz, the Prussian minister, that the absorption of Savoy was viewed in Germany with the greatest distrust, and he reiterated with emphasis his denunciation of the measure as well as of the policy of France, which, he said, was daily outraging public opinion. He characterised the conduct and language of Count Cavour in the matter as ambiguous.—Lord J. RUSSELL said he had returned no answer to the despatch of Lord Bloomfield, the subject of which was a communication between Baron Schleinitz and the French minister, but Prussia agreed in the view taken by her Majesty's government on the subject of the annexation. He admitted that the language of Count Cavour was of the character represented by Sir R. Peel. He added that he had recently received a despatch stating in temperate terms the views of the French government respecting the annexation, which was treated as a case under special circumstances.—a communication, he said, which required the most serious attention.

THE EXPEDITION TO CHINA.

On the order for going into a committee of supply, Sir DE LACY EVANS, who had given notice of a series of resolutions on the subject of the expedition against China, drew attention to the vast armament which was to form that expedition, and which must cost, he said, an enormous sum of money, with little chance of its being repaid by the imperial government at Pekin. He thought it would not be desirable that the troops should march upon that capital, and he hoped that Lord J. Russell would be able to inform the house that strict instructions would be given for the conduct of the expedition. He forebore to move the resolutions of which he had given notice, and substituted a resolution founded upon the wish expressed in her Majesty's speech on the opening of the present session:—"It will be gratifying to me if the prompt acquiescence of the Emperor of China in the moderate demands which will be made by the plenipotentiaries shall obviate the necessity for the employment of force."—Lord J. RUSSELL said with respect to the military operations it would be very inconvenient and unwise to prescribe such strict instructions that the commanding officers would find themselves bound thereby, so that whatever circumstances might occur they would be compelled to obey them. As to marching upon Pekin, there would be no need of it unless all fair and reasonable terms should be refused; but it would be wrong to give particular instructions not to march thither. No one could regret more than he did the necessity of this expedition, but the persons and property of our traders must be secured, and he thought that our minister in China should have the power not only of going to but of residing at the capital. It might be more convenient that he should permanently reside at Shanghai, but he should be at liberty to proceed, if necessary, to Pekin. He considered that we were entitled to an indemnity, but he was convinced that no man was more anxious to maintain peaceful relations with China than Lord Elgin.—Sir J. ELPHINSTONE was of opinion that it would be a fatal mistake to march upon Pekin, and a far better policy to occupy the city of Nankin, with a force of gunboats on the river. He warned the house of the expense that would attend these hostilities, and expressed his belief, founded upon local knowledge and experience, that we should not get out of this Chinese war for less than 10,000,000*l.*—Mr BRIGHT said he was a good deal disappointed at the statement of Lord J. Russell. He thought that on occasions of this nature it was the duty of the Minister for Foreign Affairs to be a little more explicit. He traced the progress of the transactions in China from the war commenced, he said, by the indiscretion of Sir J. Bowring; and after blaming the stipulations of the last treaty he contended that, in the proceedings for the ratification of that treaty, we were as much in the wrong as we were at Canton, under the management of Sir J. Bowring.

He denied that the Chinese were open to the charge of treachery; he insisted that the collision at the mouth of the Peiho was attributable to the folly and imbecility of our own minister and the indiscretion of the admiral, and he censured the government for allowing a person so utterly unfit to conduct the negotiations as Mr Bruce to continue to be our minister in China. He could see no advantage to this country in requiring that our minister should reside at Pekin, which would inflict a grievous insult upon the Emperor of China, and be an ungenerous act on our part. He warned the government against a partnership with another power, and against making demands upon the government of China, which, being based only upon a disaster occasioned by the folly of our own minister, we ought not, in the sight of God or man, to make.—Mr S. HERBERT, after replying to some suggestions made by Sir J. Elphinstone, observed that it might be true that the treaty of Tien-tsin imposed upon the Chinese conditions that were unacceptable to them; but at the same time, as the treaty had been adopted by both the late and the present governments, it was a *fait accompli*, and its ratification must be insisted upon. Nothing was sought at the Peiho but the ratification of the treaty, and after what occurred there one course only remained; it would be most unwise to approach the Chinese authorities without a sufficient force to show that we were able to insist upon its ratification, and he had great hopes that, by this demonstration of force, and by the wisdom and conciliation of Lord Elgin, our relations with China would be placed upon a friendly footing.—Sir J. PAKINGTON could not remove from his mind a feeling of disappointment at the speech of Lord J. Russell, who had promised to state what was the policy the government intended to pursue. After the unhappy affair of the Peiho, it was the duty of the government to see that our power and prestige should not be impaired, and he thought them right in making a demonstration of force; but, looking to the whole conduct of Mr Bruce, he thought we were not entitled to demand an apology from the government of China. This involved two questions—did the circumstances, as they occurred, justify the demand of an apology; and, if the apology was refused, what was the alternative? He thought that, at the bar of the Peiho, Mr Bruce had committed an error in judgment; that he was wrong in his interpretation of the law of nations, and in ordering an attack. If we were not justified, in these doubtful circumstances, in commencing hostilities, were we justified in asking for an apology? Then, if the apology was demanded and refused, was the government going to engage in a protracted war with China? He thought they were entitled to demand that the treaty should be ratified, and right in making a demonstration of force.—Mr HOPE and Mr C. BRUCE defended the conduct of Admiral Hope and Mr Bruce in the attack of the mouth of the Peiho.—Lord PALMERSTON said that when we judge the conduct of a man we ought to imagine ourselves to be in the situation he was in at the time when the act was performed upon which we are called to pass a judgment, and, adopting this rule, all the circumstances (which he recapitulated) justified Mr Bruce and Admiral Hope in the conduct they pursued. There would, in his opinion, have been just ground for blaming Mr Bruce if he had acted differently; and as to the admiral, no officer could have displayed a greater spirit of heroism. Sir J. Pakington had asked what was the policy of the government towards China. That policy was as simple as it was just. The treaty concluded with China had been approved by the Emperor, and the government wanted the ratifications to be exchanged, so that the treaty should become a formal compact between the two nations, and that its stipulations should be fulfilled. As to an apology, he thought there was no reason to suppose that the Emperor of China would be indisposed to make one.—Mr WHITESIDE condemned the conduct of Mr Bruce in the attack upon the Chinese, and complained that the tone of Lord Palmerston's speech implied that the admiral who was to go out with the force to China was to repeat the same offence.—The amendment, though understood to have been moved, was not put from the chair, and the house went into committee of supply, when, on the motion of Mr S. HERBERT, a vote of credit of 850,000*l.*, on account of China, was agreed to.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We have several interesting communications before us, on Cotton, the Game Laws, and other subjects, which we can do no more at present than acknowledge with thanks.

Latest Intelligence.

SATURDAY, MARCH 17.

THE PAPAL STATES.

DESPATCH OF CARDINAL ANTONELLI.

The Nord of yesterday contains a despatch of Cardinal Antonelli, in reply to the last note of M. Thouvenel.

The Cardinal begins by asserting that Piedmont is the sole cause of the insurrection in the Romagna and the discontent in the other provinces of the Papal States. He contrasts the past promises of France and Austria, who in March last promised to maintain the integrity of the Holy See, with their present inaction and delays. That reforms and concessions would pacify the Romagna is an illusion proved by the declarations of the pretended government of Bologna, which declares that nothing less than the absolute abolition of the Papal authority will satisfy the people. Still the Holy Father has not refused any reforms consistent with his conscience and the welfare of his people. The French Government has requested that these reforms should be put immediately into execution, but the Pope cannot do this until the revolted provinces return under law and order. The "partial abdication" suggested by France is declared entirely out of the question. A separate administration with an elected council would be, in fact, an absolute abdication. In short, the Pope cannot consent to any abdication whatsoever for the reason stated in the Encyclical of January 19, namely, that the States of the Church are not the personal property of the Pope, but belong to the Church. The renunciation of the Romagna could be quoted as a precedent for a demand for the renunciation of any province of the Papal States. The Pope, finally, cannot see with indifference the spiritual ruin of one million of his subjects, abandoned to the mercy of a party who lay snares for their faith and corrupt their morals; nor behold without concern the scandal which would follow, to the detriment of the dispossessed Italian Princes and of all Christian Princes, and of

all civil society, at seeing the felony of a territory crowned with success.

The Cardinal refers to the cession made by Pius VI, at the time of the Treaty of Tolentino. In that case the Pope yielded to force to save the rest of his dominions; but Pius IX is asked to yield to a dangerous principle, capable of extended application. If the revolt in the Romagna has not ceased, the fault is not attributable to the Holy Father, who cannot obtain for the reduction of that revolt the support he might have expected.

After stating that, in consequence of the separation of the Romagna, and the disruption which would necessarily follow that step, the rights of all Catholics would be infringed, inasmuch as they have an interest in the actual order established by Providence, an order established to the end that their supreme Teacher might enjoy absolute independence in the exercise of his apostolic functions; and after pointing out that this was the purport of the Encyclical, the Cardinal continues:

I will not conclude this despatch without suggesting to you a last consideration with respect to the alleged impossibility of making the Romagna return to the legitimate authority of the Holy Father without foreign intervention or renewed occupations, things which are stated to be "impossible," "insurmountable." It is true and it is impossible to doubt that the revolt of the four legations has been brought about, and is maintained by the agency of a small party which owes its power to the assistance it has received from without, and its hope of receiving still more assistance in the same way, and I cannot see why a rebellion which has been consummated by means of iniquitous external assistance, should not be repressed and extinguished by legitimate assistance from abroad. Again, can any one say that succour offered by Catholic nations to their common Father, and in interest which concern the whole of Christendom, should be called assistance from abroad? For the rest, if, on the one hand, the Holy Father should be disposed to consent to the renewal of negotiations on the basis indicated, on the other he is firmly decided (as he has already stated publicly), with the assistance of God, whose vicar on earth he is, to sustain the patrimonial rights of the Catholic Church, whatever may be the attacks of his adversaries, and whatever may be the opposition which he unfortunately encounters at the present melancholy juncture.

(Signed) G. Cardinal ANTONELLI.

Rome, Feb. 29, 1860.

The Official Gazette of Turin of the 13th publishes addresses to the King, all numerously signed, from the clergy of the Valassina, Cremona, and Piacenza, expressive of their conviction that the question of the Romagna is quite distinct from the interests of religion; they conclude with professions of devoted loyalty to the throne of Sardinia.

A letter from Turin, in the Opinion Nationale, contains the following: Neapolitan emigrants are beginning to arrive in the rest of Italy, in numbers nearly as great as those from Venetia. Several arrive at Genoa every day, and nearly all are persons distinguished for their superior talents and social position. With respect to the question of annexation for Central Italy, a person of whose veracity I have no doubt assures us that it is the intention of a great majority of the Romagnese to turn Protestants rather than fall again under the government of the Pope in any form whatever.

The Paris Correspondent of the Daily News writes on Thursday as follows:—"I have some reason to think that the French Government is so deeply impressed with the overwhelming demonstration of Central Italy in favour of annexation to Piedmont, that a change for the better has taken place in its councils within the last few hours. Yesterday the disposition was to challenge the annexation of the Romagna, and to press the King of Sardinia to negotiate further with the Pope. It is said in Government circles to-day that this idea is abandoned, and that events in Italy will be suffered, for the moment at least, to follow their natural course."

The Moniteur of yesterday contains a decree nominating M. Michel Chevalier senator. The Moniteur also contains a report of the Minister of War, Marshal Randon, proposing, as the ideas of war are receding, to reduce the effective of the battalions of Chasseurs from eight to six companies, the force which existed before 1853. The report is followed by a decree of the Emperor approving the Ministerial proposal. Letters from Toulon state that the French fleet has been recalled from Algiers. The Courier des Alpes announces, upon information derived from an authentic source, that the 1st and 2nd Regiments of Dragoons, now stationed at Lyons, have received orders to leave for Chambéry.—M. Jullien, in whose behalf a subscription was being collected, is no more. He died, we believe yesterday, in a lunatic asylum in Paris.

A telegram from Pesth, dated the 16th, says: "Yesterday about 200 students attempted a demonstration in the churches and churchyards of this city. Several students were arrested. On an attempt being made to rescue them, the police resorted to their weapons, and wounded several persons. The population did not in any way take part in this demonstration."

From Constantinople, under date the 7th inst., we learn that the Ministers remain in office, the Grand Vizier adopting the programme of his predecessors, who are reconciled with him. He has also undertaken a reorganisation of the law courts. Sir H. Bulwer has assembled the diplomatic corps, and spoke in defence of the tax on European house rents. The Ambassador of Russia strongly opposed the project, and by his arguments convinced some of his colleagues. M. Kalbinsky, the principal agent of Russian Pan Slavism, has proceeded to Bulgaria to organise an agitation in that province. A Bulgarian journal, published by Russians, is about to appear at Constantinople.

The overland mail has arrived with news from India to the 8th ult. The most important items of intelligence brought by this mail have already been published. Lord Canning had held a grand durbar at Umballa.

The first private telegram between India and England, via the Red Sea route, was received at Lloyd's yesterday, dated Calcutta, March 10, thus reducing the communication between the chief Presidency of India and the capital of England, to a period of six days. When the entire line of telegraph wire has been laid the period of communication will be reduced to two days. The telegram referred to was as follows: "Calcutta, March 10.—Ship Red Gauntlet, bound to London, burnt and scuttled. Some cargo will be saved."

The Shannon, bringing the West India and Pacific mails, has arrived at Southampton. She brings news of a terrible tragedy at Lima, Captain Lambert, of her Majesty's steamer Vixen, having been cruelly robbed and murdered in that city. A large portion of the city of Barbadoes had been destroyed by fire, and the value of the property burnt amounted to half a million, only some thirty thousand pounds of which were insured. The colony of St Lucia had sustained a great loss by the sudden death of the Hon. R. G. M'Hugh. Great excitement prevailed in Rumania in consequence of the signing of a treaty for the unconditional surrender of the Bay Islands to the Republic of Honduras. An outbreak was expected. The Mexican troops had taken Santa Cruz, the stronghold of the revolutionary Indians in Yucatan, who had since mustered in Bacalar. News of an attack was daily expected, and apprehensions were entertained of the Indians crossing the British frontier at Corosol.

Last night's Gazette contains a notification to the effect that a new peerage of "Brougham and Vaux" had been created in favour of Lord

Brougham, for the purpose of extending it to his lordship's brother, Mr W. Brougham, and his heirs male. The following appointments appeared in the same Gazette:—Mr James Walker to be Lieutenant-Governor of Trinidad; Mr A. Mackenzie to be Consul at Geneva; Sir R. F. Turing, Bart., to be Consul at Rotterdam; Mr C. J. Calvert, now Consul at Salonica, to be Consul at Monastir; Mr R. Wilkinson, now Vice-Consul at Durazzo, to be Consul at Salonica; Mr J. Grignon, now Consul at Portland; to be Consul in the Canary Islands; and Mr H. J. Murray, now Consul in the Canary Islands, to be Consul at Portland.

Mr Cobden is expected to arrive in Paris, from Cannes, on Tuesday next, to meet M. Chevalier and the principal free-traders of France.

The Committee of Joint-stock Banks on Thursday determined to recommend to the private establishments that the general hour for closing on Saturdays should be fixed at three o'clock, instead of four o'clock as at present. The question will be decided by the private bankers on Monday next, and no doubt is entertained that three will be the hour adopted.

The record of recent ecclesiastical preferments contains the appointment of the Rev. W. W. Talfourd to the living of Winceby, Lincolnshire. The appointed is the second son of the departed poet and judge, the living is in the gift of the Lord Chancellor.

A telegram in the Freeman's Journal, dated Londonderry, Thursday night, says: "There are three candidates in the field for the vacant seat: Mr W. M'Cormick, a conservative, whom it is conjectured, will be strongly supported by the mercantile interests; Mr S. M. Greer, who will have the liberal suffrages; and Mr G. Skipton, who comes up as a moderate whig, and who, if he persists, will, it is supposed by some here, divide the liberal votes with Mr Greer, and probably secure the return of the tory candidate. The Catholics are, up to the present, standing aloof from all candidates, and amount to 186 in a constituency of 835. The presbyterian electors number about the same."

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

SOCIAL "FIXINGS" IN THE UNITED STATES.—The method by which divorces are obtained in the United States is illustrated by a case which lately occurred in Kansas, reported by the New York Times, as follows: "Our correspondent in Kansas apprises us that the market for divorces on the Legislative 'Change may be quoted as extremely active. Among numerous and notable applicants was Mr R. S. Strothers, of Washington City, who married the daughter of Mrs Myra Gaines, of litigious fame, and who sought a separation on the ground that his wife found his society disagreeable and avoided it. The evidence upon which he relied were letters from Messrs Crittenden, Corwin, and other members of Congress, who endorsed the grievance of which Mr Strothers complained; and begged as a matter of personal favour that the Act might be passed."—An attempted "stroke of business" has been made in the following manner: Some time since a Mr Nicholas Longworth, of Cincinnati, shipped to the care of the American Minister in London, Mr Dallas, ten boxes of sparkling Catawba, and requesting him to be so very good as to accept one box for his own use and turn over the other nine to his wine merchant, with instructions to sell them for what price he thought best, and account for the net proceeds. Mr Dallas, however, returned the subjoined reply: "Dear Sir,—Yours is received, informing," &c. "I cannot approve your procedure. I cannot reconcile the duties of Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States at this Court with those of a commission merchant. I shall not receive the wine, &c. Yours, &c., G. M. DALLAS."—A telegram from Richmond, Virginia, gives an account of a peculiar scene in a court of law. As Captain Vincent Witcher was taking testimony relative to the divorce of his granddaughter from a man named Clemens, the latter and his brother became angry and fired revolvers, grazing Witcher's clothing. The latter fired, and shot both dead. A grandson of Witcher, named Smith, attempted to enter, when the third Clemens fired upon him. Smith immediately killed him with a bowie knife. Witcher is 75 years old, well known, and was formerly President of the Danville railroad.

SUICIDE OF AN AUSTRIAN GENERAL.—Not long ago the military authorities were under the painful necessity of arresting General August Baron von Eynatten, and of bringing him before a court-martial, it being strongly suspected that he had been guilty of gross frauds while at the head of the military administration in 1859. Soon after the proceedings had begun Baron von Eynatten was obliged to admit facts which left no doubt that he had culpably abused the powers entrusted to him. "Although the authorities had taken all the usual precautions to prevent such an occurrence, Baron von Eynatten, who was evidently suffering under the pressure of a heavily burdened conscience, found means to take his own life during the night between the 7th and 8th inst., and so to escape the punishment which awaited him. He left a written document, in which he, with the expression of heartfelt repentance, repeated the confessions he had made, and implored his injured Sovereign to pardon him." When Baron Eynatten was first taken to the military prison he was subjected to the customary examination, and everything with which it appeared likely that he could do injury to himself was taken from him. He was not, however, made to lay aside his uniform, which was that of an officer of Lancers. During the night of the 7th he separated from the back of the collar of his uniform those embroidered cords—they are about as thick as a finger—which Polish Lancers wear round their necks, and hanged himself with them. He had previously tried to destroy himself by forcing a breast-pin into his heart, but the attempts which he made failed, and probably because he was a corpulent man. It is stated that the body had three minute wounds on the left side of the chest. In the document mentioned in the Wiener Zeitung Baron von Eynatten expressed a hope that the manner of his death might not be made public, as he wished his wife to think he had died of apoplexy. M. Richter, chief director of the Crédit Mobilier Association, has been arrested—it is supposed for complicity with the late General Eynatten.

MANCHESTER UNITY OF ODD FELLOWS.—The annual meeting of the Widow and Orphan Fund attached to the North London district was held at the Howland-street Institute on Monday, forty-six delegates from lodges being present. In giving their report on the 21st year of the society's experience, the managing committee stated that, at the commencement of 1859, 298 widows, 463 children, and 23 parentless children were recipients of the benefits of the fund. During the year 58 widows were admitted as claimants, and 31 declared off, or had died; 75 children also were admitted, and 74 ceased to receive benefits, by attaining the age of fourteen, or from having died. At the close of the year, therefore, the pensioners of the fund were 325 widows, 467 fatherless children, and 20 orphans.

SELF-INTERESTED VANDALISM.—We learn from the Globe that the Marylebone Parochial Board has prevailed with the Metropolitan Railway Company to deviate (subject to the sanction of the Commissioners of Works, which has not yet been given) from the original plan of their line (at a necessarily increased expense), by the projected demolition of houses in Park crescent—to the destruction of the architectural symmetry of the square and crescent—the expulsion of some, and the injury, as they consider it, of the rest of the inhabitants of a locality which well might have supposed itself safe, since it forms a conspicuous portion of the only public avenue of the metropolis which bears the stamp of regular and extended design, carried out to completion. Will the Commissioners of Works give their sanction to the perpetration of this parochially initiated inroad alike on private and on public interests? We sincerely hope not.

LORD NORMANBY'S CHARGES AGAINST GENERAL DECAVERO.—The Post publishes a letter addressed to Lord Normanby by General

Decavero, the Tuscan Minister of War, whom Lord Normanby, in his pamphlet, "The Cabinet and the Congress," has charged with appropriating public monies of the Tuscan State to the amount of 60,000*l.* In the name of public morality and justice, the Sardinian general, who has honourably served his country for a period of forty-seven years, now publicly calls on Lord Normanby to place the grounds for such a charge in the hands of Baron Ricasoli, the head of the Tuscan Government; "and in the name of English integrity and honour," observes the Post, "we declare that if Lord Normanby does not answer this appeal, he will be branded by the public opinion of his own countrymen as guilty of the most groundless and heartless calumny."

THE ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS.—The Zoological Society have just received an important addition to their menagerie, in the shape of a fine living specimen of the Gigantic Salamander of Japan, the largest known species of amphibian. This singular creature, which somewhat resembles a monstrous water-newt, inhabits the lakes of the basaltic mountains of Japan, where it was discovered by the Dutch naturalist, Dr von Siebold, but even there is considered a scarce animal. It is famous as being the nearest living analogue of the Fossil Man or *Homo diluvii testis* of Schuchzer (*Andrias Schuchzeri* of geologists). The society's specimen is at present about three feet in length, and is the first of the sort which has been brought alive to this country.

ROYAL LITERARY FUND.—The annual meeting of the members was held on Wednesday. From the report it appeared that within the past year there were forty-nine grants, amounting to a total of 1,640*l.* Of these grants thirty-five, amounting to 985*l.*, were made to males, fourteen to females, five of whom were authors, and nine to widows, making the total granted to females, 655*l.* Two grants were 100*l.* each, one 70*l.*, three 60*l.*, and five 50*l.* The balance-sheet showed that the receipts of the year were 2,246*l.* 2*s.* 4*d.*, and the disbursements 2,169*l.* 2*s.* 9*d.*, leaving a balance of 76*l.* 19*s.* 7*d.* The Chairman, Earl Stanhope, read the following report of the general committee: "The general committee have to report that the committee having applied themselves to the consideration of the question whether it was desirable to recommend the adoption of the offer reported to the last general meeting, decided that in their judgment it was not, on which the offer was withdrawn." Lord Stanhope said the reason why the report was such a short one was that the committee did not consider it desirable to raise a discussion on the subject to which it related. The offer having been withdrawn by the two gentlemen who were requested to make it on behalf of the donor, there was no longer any question to be brought before the members. As regarded those gentlemen—Mr C. Dickens and Mr Elwin—he felt it to be no more than justice to bear testimony to the great courtesy, kindness, and conciliatoriness of spirit which they had both displayed. Nothing could be more satisfactory than their entire demeanour in connexion with the transaction. The question being thus laid at rest, and there being good reason to believe that neither Mr Dickens nor Mr Elwin intended to revive it, the committee thought it undesirable for themselves to reopen it.

ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.—At the meeting of the Geographical Society last week, Australian Discovery formed the subject of the papers communicated and of the discussion. The first paper, by Mr M. Stuart, was on the South Australian exploring expedition into the interior of the continent. Mr Stuart proceeded in a north-westerly direction from Port Augusta, and penetrated nearly as far as the 22nd deg. of south latitude, considerably farther than any European explorer had yet reached in that direction. The aspect of the country was favourable, the land being undulating, open, mostly covered with vegetation, and well watered. Mr Stuart was about to proceed on another expedition, furnished by an enterprising settler, for in one part of the country there were indications of gold. He expressed the hope of being able to penetrate through the interior to Western Australia, and anticipated a time when all the British settlements in Australia would be connected by the electric telegraph with one another and with the mother country. The second paper, communicated by Sir G. F. Bowen, Governor of Queensland, described the discovery of a large, deep, and well-protected harbour on the north-east coast of Australia.

MONEY-LENDING IN PARIS.—A recent trial in Paris has revealed a curious side of Parisian life. It was that of Madlle. Léonie Leveau, who, possessing considerable talent for business, blended the two professions of *fille de marbre* and usurer, and carried on both with considerable success. The first pursuit is perfectly legitimate according to French law, but not so with regard to usury. To take a higher interest for money than 6 per cent. is a penal offence, and as Madlle. Leveau levied from 50 to 150 per cent., she was prosecuted under that head. The names of the witnesses for the prosecution are unfortunately not given—the French law papers having great delicacy on that score. Nevertheless, though their name is not given, their rank is mentioned. Thus we find a Viscount de S— who borrowed 16,000*fr.*, for which he gave a bill at three months' date for 22,500*fr.* One Baron X—, who described himself as a law student, borrowed 3,000*fr.* (120*l.*), for which he gave a bill for 200*l.* He said he wanted the money to get married. It appears that he was successful, for he is now married; and it is on the refusal of his father-in-law to pay his debts in full that he quarrelled with Madlle. Leveau, and that the Procureur Imperial got wind of the affair. But the richest part is to come. Madlle. Leveau had a partner in the shape of an old infantry officer of the name of St Cirque, who acted as a kind of "bonnet," and used to act as an intermediate agent between certain of her "clients" and herself. The kind of business will best appear from the following extract from a business letter to his fair *associée*: "If you have a diamond ring worth 500*fr.*, I know a young man who wants one to go into society. He would rent it for 20*fr.* a month. Another young friend of mine wants a 20*l.* note, just to show off when he opens his card-case. He would rent it for 25*fr.* a month." Madlle. Leveau also dabbled in matrimonial speculations, and the reading the list of candidates for a *dot* of 100,000*fr.* created much laughter in court. Nevertheless the Court, *quoniam ridendo*, behaved rather severely, and sentenced Madlle. Leveau to four months' imprisonment and 4,000*fr.* fine.

TOWN AND COUNTRY TALK.

Three leading counsel at the bar have been named, from whom the selection will probably be made for the vacant judgeship—viz., Mr Wilde, Q.C., Mr M. Chambers, Q.C., and Mr Lush, Q.C. The balance of probability is thought to be in favour of Mr Wilde.

Lord Airlie's attention having been directed to the fact that the turnip crops on many of his farms were being destroyed by famishing "vermin," *i. e.*, hares and rabbits, he has most considerably desired his keepers to visit all the farmers, and give them permission to shoot all the hares and rabbits they find feeding on their crops.

The electric telegraph is about to be extended to the Wells and Burnham Branch Railway, in Somersetshire, so as to connect Bridgewater Bay, in the Bristol Channel, with London.

The Commodore Perry has arrived from Melbourne with a valuable cargo of wool and 58,000*l.* in gold. In consequence of her lengthened passage, 118 days, the rate of insurance at Lloyd's on this vessel latterly advanced to 25 per cent.

An extraordinary meeting of the Atlantic Telegraph Company is called for the 28th inst., when the resolutions passed respectively on the 8th June and 29th ult. will be rescinded, and resolutions will be proposed authorising the company to borrow a sum not exceeding

25,000*l.*, by the issue of mortgage debentures, or by the creation of preference shares.

Mr and Mrs Charles Kean are continuing their theatrical progress in Scotland with the greatest success, and were playing last week to crowded houses at Aberdeen, where their reception had been most enthusiastic.

Mr Smith announces that he will open Her Majesty's Theatre on Easter Tuesday, and advertises as engagements already made those of Mdle Titiens, Mesdames Albani and Borghi-Mamo, and Mesdames Ferraris and Pocchini. Mr Benedict and Signor Arditi are to be the conductors.

A committee has been formed for the erection of a portrait-statue of Dr Priestley, among the distinguished men of science, in the corridor of the new Museum at Oxford. Mr Stephens is spoken of as the sculptor.

It is said that negotiations have been initiated between the Board of Works and the company owning the vacant ground opposite the Westminster Palace Hotel in Victoria street, with a view to the Foreign Office being removed for a certain term of years to the building which that company are about to erect on that site.

A subscription is on foot for the erection of a memorial window to Mrs Hemans, to be placed in the church where she lies buried—that of St Anne, Dublin. The estimated cost is 250*l.*, of which about one-fifth has been already promised to lead the subscription.

Mr Maclise, the Athenæum says, has determined to paint his great cartoon in Westminster Palace, in the German fresco—that is, in the water-glass medium.

The usual notice has been given to artists proposing to send their pictures to the Royal Academy for exhibition. This year the latest day for sending in pictures will be Tuesday, April 10.

The pictures are being hung for the Seventh Annual Exhibition of the French and Flemish Artists, at the gallery in Pallmall. A private view will be given to-day.

It is proposed by the Society of Arts to open in the first week of June an exhibition of modern furniture in the Italian style, the object of the exhibition being to extend the acquaintance of the public with ornamental art and the appliances of modern workmanship and materials.

On Saturday, at the York assizes, the Rev. H. L. Bickerstaffe pleaded guilty to marrying Anna Maria Campbell, his former wife, Mona Brougham Bickerstaffe, being then alive. He was sentenced to be kept in penal servitude for three years.

The Prince Consort has consented to become patron of the National Rifle Association.

Arrangements have been completed between the South-Eastern and the French Great Northern Companies for the tidal service between Folkestone and Boulogne from the 1st of May next being performed in about ten hours, an unprecedented speed for the journey between the two capitals.

On Monday Lord Elgin left town for Paris, to consult with the French Government preparatory to taking his departure for China.

It is stated that the profits of the recent amateur performance at the Lyceum Theatre amount to 400*l.*, which will be divided between the two families for whom the members of the "Savage Club" exerted themselves.

We understand that arrangements are being made to establish a fund for the relief of the sufferers by the wreck of the Hungarian.

It appears from Parliamentary papers that the number of petitions presented to the House of Commons, down to Friday night, praying for reciprocity with France in shipping, was thirty-eight, and that the number of signatures thereto was 3,749.

Arrangements are in progress for erecting a telegraph-office on the race-course at Newmarket, and uniting it by a subterranean wire with the existing telegraphic establishment at the railway station.

Her Majesty has presented Mr W. B. Donne, examiner of plays, who has had the direction of recent theatrical performances at Windsor, with a handsome silver inkstand, in token that his services have been duly appreciated. Mr Donne has also received her Majesty's commands to continue to direct the Windsor theatricals.

The inquiries ordered by the Board of Trade respecting the foundering of the Ondine, after being in collision in the Channel, and the stranding of the ship Earl of Eglinton, have been abandoned.

The oldest known factory operative is a person named Parkinson, employed at the mill of Mr D. Whitehead, Rawtenstall. He is in his ninetieth year, and works daily at the factory, Sundays excepted. He has never been in the receipt of parish relief, and refuses to be supported by his family. He is a member of the Society of Friends.

The wife of J. Ether, 5 George street, Princes street, Haymarket, was delivered, on Monday morning, of three fine boys, all of whom, with the mother, are doing well. The parents, in humble circumstances, have three other children, the eldest being only four years old.

Viscount Dillon met with a severe accident while hunting with Lord Redesdale's hounds on Saturday, by which he dislocated his collar-bone.

The "last dividend" to the lock-outs was paid on February 27. A circular is issued asking the operatives to decide whether or not the movement is to be "revived," and whether the organisation that conducted the strike is to be continued.

At the Liverpool Coroner's Court, on Tuesday, an inquest was held on the body of Sarah Dyke, a woman of intemperate habits, who was strangled by the sash of a window falling on her neck, as she was entering her house in the middle of the night. She had gone from home without the knowledge or sanction of her husband.

On Wednesday, at a meeting of the committee of University College Hospital, a letter was read from Mr W. Walton, secretary to the Imperial Continental Gas Association, enclosing, by direction of Sir F. H. Goldsmid, M.P., a cheque for 100 guineas, as a donation to the hospital, being Sir F. Goldsmid's share of a testimonial voted by the proprietors of the association to a committee of the directors.

The late accident on the Eastern Counties Railway has resulted in another death at Bow, caused not so much through any material injury received as through the effects of the shock or fright attendant on the accident operating on a delicate nervous system. The list of deaths now amounts to seven. The inquest has ended in a verdict ascribing the accident to the breaking of the tire of one of the leading wheels of an engine in consequence of a defective weld, the jury being of opinion that had proper precaution and vigilance been used the accident might have been avoided.

At the General Court of Proprietors in the Bank of England, held on Thursday, a dividend of 4½ per cent., free of income-tax, was declared. The warrants will be issued on the 7th of April.

The Duke de Montpensier has arrived in England on a visit to his mother, the ex-Queen of France, at Claremont.

The examination of F. Carman, a man of colour and steward of the Accrington, for the wilful murder of the captain and chief mate, occupied the Southampton magistrates this week. When the case for the prosecution closed, the mayor said they were of opinion that there was not sufficient evidence to detain the prisoner, and he must therefore be discharged.

The will of the late Lieut.-Gen. Sir W. F. P. Napier was proved on the 2nd inst., by his widow, the sole executrix, the personality being sworn under 40,000*l.*

The first journal ever published in Morocco has just appeared. It is printed at Tetuan, in the Spanish language, and is distributed gratuitously. It bears the name of the Echo of Tetuan.

A printing-office and a lithographic establishment has recently been formed for the first time in Greenland, and a work published by it has just made its appearance.

In 'Notes and Queries' we read the following: "Mr Bright is stated to have given utterance to the following characteristic burst of sentiment:—'The British Lion! would to God the brute were dead! Can any reader of 'N. and Q.' inform me on what occasion it was that Mr Bright's zeal so far overcame his discretion?'"

As the down goods train was shunting into the goods station at Totnes at 12.50 p.m. on Tuesday the boiler of the engine Tornado exploded and blew the driver, Amos Hall, into the air, causing instant death. The stoker, who was on the engine, also was seriously injured, and a portion of the building was thrown down.

The proprietors of the Royal Exchange, Manchester, have refused to sanction a vote by the committee of 200l. to the rifle fund.

A donation of 550l. to the restoration fund of Waltham Abbey Church has been paid into the bank of Messrs Round and Co., of Colchester, by an anonymous donor.

It is reported that the Rev. Dr Vaughan, late Head Master of Harrow School, who recently declined the bishopric of Rochester, will be the new Dean of Lincoln, in the room of Dr Ward, deceased.

The thirtieth annual meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science will take place at Oxford. The first general meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 27, when the Prince Consort will resign the presidency, and Lord Wrottesley will take the chair and deliver an address.

It is stated that the Rev. W. V. Yarworth, M.A., of St John's College, Oxford, and late incumbent of Westbury-upon-Trym, near Bristol, has been received into the Roman Catholic church, at Rome, by the Right Rev. Monsignor Talbot.

During the past week a "relic of the true Cross," encased in jewels, worth some thousands of pounds (the property of an English nobleman), has been exhibited at a convent near Clifton.

The Admiralty superintendents at the mail packet ports will in future be called superintendents of contract packets, in consequence of the mail steamers having been transferred from the Admiralty to the Post-office and Board of Trade.

The restoration of the Red Sea telegraph brings England within six days' distance of India, so that the telegram due in London from Marseilles on the 18th inst. may contain news from all parts of British India up to the 12th instant.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—ADMISSIONS DURING THE WEEK.—Saturday, March 10. On payment, 987; by season tickets, 2,420; total, 3,407.—Monday, March 12. On payment, 645; by season tickets, 333; total, 1,028.—Tuesday, March 13. On payment, 764; by season tickets, 399; total, 1,163.—Wednesday, March 14. On payment, 770; by season tickets, 454; total, 1,224.—Thursday, March 15. On payment, 958; by season tickets, 414; total, 1,372.—Friday, March 16. On payment, 661; by season tickets, 343; total, 1,009.

SOUTH KENSINGTON MUSEUM.—During the week ending March 10 the visitors have been as follows:—On Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday (free days), 5,401; on Monday and Tuesday (free evenings), 4,908. On the three students' days (admission to the public 6d.), 1,227; one students' evening (Wednesday), 495. Total, 12,031. From the opening of the Museum, 1,318,531.—**MUSEUM OF PATENTS, SOUTH KENSINGTON.**—Number of visitors for the week ending March 10. Mornings, 976; evenings, 1,209; total, 2,185; since the opening of the Museum free daily (May 12, 1858), 195,543.

LAW.

BREACH OF PROMISE.—BEACHEY v. BROWN.—The following case was tried at Exeter on Monday:—The plaintiff, Elizabeth Beachey, is a young lady of 26 years of age, and the daughter of a gentleman of some property residing at Beach park, Devon; and the defendant, Mr Brown, is a gentleman of about the same age, residing at Barton hall, near Torquay. The families had been acquainted with each other, and had exchanged visits from time to time, and had met at various parties in the neighbourhood, and when they met their acquaintance was merely of an ordinary description. Miss Beachey had two years before been engaged to a gentleman named Yeals, who had gone to Australia for a month or two, when he was to return, and then they were to be married, but from that time to this he had never been heard of, and Miss Beachey considered the engagement entirely at an end. On the 4th of June Miss Beachey received the following letter from Mr Brown:—"Barton hall, Saturday.—My dear Miss Beachey,—I have known you for a long time, and have always had the greatest regard for you, which has now changed for love. Will you allow me to offer you my heart and hand? Do write soon, and say if you can return my love.—I remain, dear Miss Beachey, yours truly, H. L. Brown." Miss Beachey consulted her father, and wrote a reply, saying she would wish to see more of Mr Brown before giving a final answer. Ultimately the proposal was accepted, and Mr Brown was received as the accepted suitor of Miss Beachey. Mr Brown expressed his wish to be married very shortly, and that the ceremony should take place in London. Mr Beachey's family went to London to be present at the Handel Festival, and it was arranged that Mr Brown should join them in London on Sunday, the 19th of June. However, the defendant did not arrive, and on the 24th of June the plaintiff's father received a letter from Mr D'Arcy, a solicitor at Newton Abbot, and a partner of the plaintiff's brother, stating that he had had a communication with Mr Brown, and he wished him to inform Mr Beachey that the affair with Miss Beachey must be considered off, as he had heard that she was still corresponding with a gentleman in Australia. Miss Beachey wrote, stating that there was no ground for the charge, and requesting Mr Brown to call and explain matters. Mr Brown did not call, but a long correspondence took place, Mr Brown alleging that he was not aware of the engagement of Miss Beachey at the time he made the promise, and ultimately refused to perform the engagement. Under these circumstances the present action was brought. Mr and Mrs Beachey proved the facts as above stated. Mr M. Smith addressed the jury for the defendant, and rested on the same grounds as contained in the letters—that Mr Brown was not aware of Miss Beachey's previous engagement. Mr Baron Martin left the question to the jury as to the amount of damages, and they found for the plaintiff—Damages, 750l.

ASSIZE INTELLIGENCE.

MURDER AT SKEGNESS.—Samuel Moody, fisherman, was tried at Lincoln, on Tuesday, for the murder of Elijah Lynn, at Skegness, on the 5th of February. It appears that the prisoner, the deceased, and another man, named Howard, were drinking at the Vine Hotel, at Skegness, on the night of the murder, at about five o'clock, and left early on Sunday morning together. Howard parted company with the prisoner and the deceased at Smith's corner, near to the place where the body was found. On the following day the body of the deceased was found in a ditch by a little boy; and near the place where the body was lying some keys, &c., were found. Upon an examination of the murdered man the skull was found to have been broken, and the medical men gave it as their opinion that the deceased died from drowning; therefore it would seem that the blow was first given, and, in all likelihood, the body afterwards thrown into the drain. The prisoner prevaricated much, telling some men he left deceased at Smith's corner, and another that he saw him

home. The cap of the prisoner and the cap of the deceased were found upon the road near the place where the murder was committed, and the next day the prisoner was seen without a cap. Another circumstance against the prisoner was, that his trousers were wet up to the knees, as though he had been in a ditch, and the prisoner accounted for that fact by saying that he had fallen down. The motive for committing the murder was alleged to be a pique at having been once beaten by the deceased, who was a much stronger man than the prisoner. Plunder was not the object, for the purse of the deceased was found upon him, therefore vengeance, and not robbery, was the object of the murder. The Rev. Mr Tozer gave the prisoner a good character. He was, he said, noted for his bravery. On the occasion of a malignant fever raging in the parish of Skegness, when the villagers fled from the corpse, in two cases Moody volunteered to bear the deceased to the grave. The jury returned a verdict of "Guilty" of manslaughter, and the prisoner was sentenced to fifteen years' penal servitude.

MURDER AT LUTON.—At Bedford, on Wednesday, Joseph Castle was indicted for the wilful murder of his wife, at Luton, on the 9th of August last. The prisoner and the deceased had been married about two years, lodging in a house belonging to the prisoner's uncle, at Ware. A day or two previous to the 9th of August there had been some wrangling between them, and she then determined to return to her mother. It would appear that jealousy on the prisoner's part was the cause of the ill blood between them. The deceased accordingly on the morning of the 8th left Ware on foot accompanied by a young girl, a cousin of the prisoner, who carried a bundle of clothes for her, "repeatedly," as the girl said, "looking back, dreading lest her husband should be following her." The girl left her at Hertford, and she then went to Cromer Hyde, stopping two hours at the house of a person she had known before her marriage. She then got a lift in a waggon to Wickhamstead. Very shortly after she had left Cromer Hyde the prisoner was there making inquiries about her. In the mean time the deceased had arrived at Luton, and there went to her mother's house. She slept there that night, and appeared in great distress. The next morning the prisoner came and found her in bed at about half-past six o'clock, and endeavoured to persuade her to return with him. What passed between them that morning is not known, but at half-past ten o'clock they left her mother's house together, and were shortly afterwards seen ascending a rising ground called Sommers hill. On the side opposite to that on which they ascended is a mound and old chalk-pit called the Dell. Here it was that the body of the deceased was found before twelve o'clock that morning, about two hours after she had left her mother's house. The body, when found, was still warm and bleeding, the knees were doubled back under the body in a kneeling position. There was a superficial cut across the throat, and about the middle of this cut a deep stah, dividing the arteries and reaching the vertebra. There were some other slight superficial wounds, and some cuts in the hands, as if an attempt had been made by the deceased to wrest a knife from the hand of an assailant. There were marks in the road about twenty-seven yards from where the body was found, as if a severe struggle had there taken place, much blood at this place, and tracks of blood thence to the body. Her shawl and bonnet were lying about six feet from her, and a small piece of the shawl near the place of the struggle, from which place there were also marks of blood in a direction towards Sommers castle, and on a stile across a footpath leading there. In a barley field, seven yards from the body, that afternoon a knife was found covered with fresh blood. This knife was shown to have belonged to the prisoner's uncle, and to have been used by the prisoner and the deceased while lodging in the uncle's house. That same afternoon the prisoner went on to Welwyn, thirteen miles distant, and there gave himself up to a police-constable, saying, "I am your prisoner. I have had a row with my wife, and cannot tell what the consequence was." Shortly afterwards a constable from Luton arrived, and told the prisoner that he had come to take him into custody on the charge of murdering his wife at Sommers. The prisoner replied, "Murder, Murder!" He appeared much excited at the time, and on his way back to Luton, while in custody, he said he had never been in trouble before in his life, and this would not have happened if she (meaning his wife) had kept away from Luton. On being asked where his wife was, he said, "I left her on the road-side, but she is found before now, I only struck her." The policeman then said, "Your wife is dead, you have cut her throat." He replied, "No; if her throat is cut she did it herself, but she has cut my hand." There was some blood in the front of his trousers, and a fresh cut on the thumb and finger of his right hand, which was then bleeding. The mother of the deceased, on cross-examination, stated that her daughter had told her that her husband was a jealous man; that on one occasion when she had attempted to leave him he tore her clothes to prevent her coming away; that he had shaved off his whiskers, and slept with knives under his pillow, and on one occasion had told her she had better leave him; that he had strange feelings in his head and might do her some harm. Mr Miles, for the prisoner, urged that the cuts on the prisoner's hands showed that a struggle must have taken place, and that the whole of the evidence was consistent with a supposition which would reduce the prisoner's offence from murder to manslaughter, supposing they were satisfied that she met her death by his hand; but there was no evidence to show that the blow was not self-inflicted; that the state of mind of the deceased was such as might have induced her to destroy herself after a quarrel with her husband, and therefore the account he gave on delivering himself into custody was a correct description of what did take place, and which no other living person had seen. The jury found the prisoner "Guilty of wilful murder," and sentence of death was passed upon him.

ACCIDENTS AND OCCURRENCES.

THE RELIGIOUS DISSENSIONS IN ST GEORGE'S-IN-THE-EAST.—The proceedings at the police court last week, so far from leading to peace, have unfortunately inflamed the excited feelings of the parishioners of St George's, who on Sunday manifested their displeasure in a very marked manner, notwithstanding the presence in the church of nearly 300 policemen. Those who attended the morning service had the following notice placed in their pews:—"£2 Reward.—Trespass.—Whereas certain disorderly persons are in the habit of remaining in the church of St George's-in-the-East after the afternoon lecture, for the purpose of interrupting the celebration of divine service in the evening, notice is hereby given that such conduct is illegal, and that all persons found so trespassing after the expiration of half-an-hour from the conclusion of the lecture will be presented according to law. The above reward will be paid to any person or persons who shall give such evidence as shall lead to the conviction of any party or parties so offending.—BRYAN KING, Rector, St George's Rectory, Cannon-street road."—On Saturday evening Mr Thompson, the senior churchwarden, entered the church, acting upon imperative orders he had received from the Bishop of London. He took with him three carpenters, who, upon his instructions, removed the crosses from the altar, and also the drapery which has given so much offence to the parishioners. Against this attack upon what Mr King has hitherto held to be essential to the performance of Divine service he simply protested, and on Sunday morning his curate and choristers took up places within the rails of the Communion table, the rector himself ascending the reading desk, which for some years past has been disused, except for the lessons, which have generally been read by a layman. There was no disturbance at the morning or evening services, but in the evening, after the sermon, when the priests and choristers moved to the vestry room, the congregation, who were evidently bent on stopping, struck up the doxology,

and the organist played with tremendous vigour, in order to drown their voices. As soon as the congregation stopped singing the organist desisted from playing, and this sort of amusement between the contending parties was kept up for nearly an hour. During a portion of the proceedings the church was in total darkness, all the lights having been put out, but it was lighted again by the direction of the police, who apprehended danger, the church being thronged the whole time—the congregation singing the doxology and the organist playing in the dark. After the lapse of an hour a large body of extra policemen entered the church, and very soon effected a clearance. Mr King has commenced an action against Mr Herbert, the chief constable of the parish, in the Court of Common Pleas, for trespass. He has also caused five other persons to be served with writs. Under these circumstances there appears to be very little hope that the excitement which has so long prevailed in this unfortunate parish will be abated.

DREADFUL DEATH BY FIRE.—On Monday Mr Bedford, coroner for Westminster, held an inquiry respecting the death of Mr W. Copeland, aged 68, a retired solicitor, who formerly carried on a very extensive practice in Lincoln's inn, had retired from the profession, and had been residing at his estate in Marlborough, Wilts. On Wednesday night the deceased came to the Crown Coffee house, St Martin's court, and retired to bed. At seven the next morning his bell was rung, and on proceeding to his room the servants found him frightfully burnt and in great agony. Medical assistance was at once sent for. Mr Bainbridge, surgeon, of St Martin's lane, said he attended the deceased, whom he found lying on the bed, frightfully burnt. The room was in the utmost disorder, the deceased in his agony having pulled nearly all the feathers out of the bed, and they were strewn over the room. The bed and bedding were much burnt. On examining the deceased, he found that the ends of his fingers were completely destroyed by fire, and the flesh of the hands was hanging in shreds, and his arms, thighs, stomach, and face were also horribly burnt. The deceased was perfectly sensible, and, in answer to witness, said, "I believe I left a candle burning when I went to bed, but I was very confused, having that night drunk a large quantity of spirits and water, and I came into the house quite intoxicated, and I think I must have put the lighted candle close to the bed, which had caught fire." The deceased never rallied, but expired the following night from the effects of the frightful injuries he had received.

DANGER OF INFLAMMABLE DRESSES.—A melancholy accident happened a short time since at St Petersburg, at a ball given to close the Carnival, at the house of Madame Smirnov. The flame of a wax-light coming in contact with the dress of one of the ladies, set fire to it, but the flames were extinguished without any material injury. One of the lady's friends, Mdlle Kindischeff, was lending assistance, when her own dress caught fire. In a moment, losing her presence of mind, she rushed out of the room into the corridor, and thence into the street. The servants who were waiting in the ante-room, instead of wrapping her round with cloaks, of which they had plenty within reach, fled in dismay, and the unfortunate young lady was actually burnt to death in the street, having, in her last moments of sensibility, thrown herself on her knees, as if to offer up a prayer.

THE MURDER IN NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.—The adjourned inquiry into this case was resumed on Wednesday. Mr Raynes, surgeon, said he had examined some clothes of the prisoner's. There were stains of blood, he believed, on the waistcoat, but he could not say whether they were caused by human blood. The stains were principally on the left leg overall, below, upon, and above the knee up the thigh. There were also upon the trousers' fall front stains of blood, that part not having been protected by the overalls. He was sure that the stains on the trousers were blood stains. There was a stain upon the left sleeve of the shirt, just above the wristband, but at present he could not say by what this stain was caused, as it appeared to have been in water. On each end of the prisoner's scarf there were stains, perhaps of blood. J. Adlard, church schoolmaster, said he lived within eighty yards of where the murder took place, and where the body was found. On Tuesday night, the 6th inst., he heard two reports of guns or pistols about 11.29 p.m., being then in bed. J. West deposed that on Wednesday morning, about seven o'clock, he went to where the deceased was found, and saw two footmarks by the south side of the barn hut-tress. On Thursday afternoon witness and two men, named Booth and Wells, found some footprints in Peaker's garden. One of these (the left) was perfect, but he did not observe any nail-marks. Several other witnesses were examined, whose evidence more or less implicated the prisoner. J. Cooper, police officer: I received information of the murder about seven o'clock on Tuesday morning—saw the body and took the cravat off the neck. In company with policeman Kew I went first to Mr Henderson's, and then to John Fenton's. I said to Fenton, "Where have you been this morning. Your boots look very wet?" He replied, "I've been up the garden." I asked to see the clothes he wore on Tuesday. He said he had these (clapping his hand on those he had on) trousers on. A voice, I thought his mother's, answered, "No, John, they are in the water." I then went into the hrewhouse, and found in a hocket there the trousers produced. I told him I should take him into custody, when he said "Oh, Lord, Cooper charges me with murdering Spencer!" In the prisoner's waistcoat pocket I found two pistol bullets and five gun caps. After searching upstairs I went down into the hrewhouse, and under the sink I found a tin hocket with these overalls in. The water was discoloured, being slightly red. Prisoner's boots looked as if they had been washed. The jury returned a verdict of "Wilful murder" against John Fenton.

DREADFUL MURDER AT EHRENBREITSTEIN.—The small town of Ehrenbreitstein, which lies at the foot of the gigantic fortress of that name, has been just frightened out of its propriety by the commission of a dreadful murder within its quiet precincts. At the Coblenz Carnival on Shrove Tuesday no character was more conspicuous than Herr Meder, a well-to-do proprietor of a tavern adjoining the post office in Ehrenbreitstein. Disguised as a huxom matron, supposed to be celebrating her "silber-hochzeit," or twenty-fifth anniversary of her wedding-day, he sat in a huge van drawn by eight horses. Seated by the side of his consort, he dispensed nods and smiles to the admiring crowd. A band of musicians, in grotesque dresses, occupied the front of the vehicle, while a humpbacked cook, in appropriate attire, waited on the wedding feast, and replenished the spacious bowl of Rhine wine, from which both bride and bridegroom indulged in frequent potations. In the evening, at the *bal masque* at the theatre, he was again the observed of all observers, his jovial countenance darkened by no shadow of the fate impending over him. On the Thursday night following he was brutally murdered while asleep in bed, with his wife and child, the occupants of another bed in the same apartment. His head was literally smashed to pieces with the repeated blows of an axe found lying at the foot of the bed. About three o'clock, some hours after the commission of the deed, a servant, who slept in a room above, was attracted by the cries of his mistress, who was found tied hand and foot behind the door of the room. She declared that about eleven o'clock two men suddenly entered the apartment, and at once proceeded to their bloody business, one striking her sleeping husband a succession of blows, the first of which must have been instantly fatal, his companion at the same time threatening her with a similar fate if she made the slightest noise or resistance. She was then gagged and bound. The men then proceeded to rob a secretaire in the adjoining apartment of nearly 200 thalers, and then decamped. It is impossible to describe the sensation occasioned by this shocking tragedy in Coblenz and Ehrenbreitstein. The funeral of the murdered man, who was highly esteemed, was attended by an immense multitude, and gossip was rife as to who had perpetrated the deed. At length, after the country had been scoured for many miles, suspicion fell upon those nearer home. At a respectable school in Coblenz was a teacher named

Keller, a well-educated man, of prepossessing manners and person, but of loose morals. It was whispered he carried on a licentious intercourse with the wife of Meder, a young and attractive woman. On the day preceding the murder, but after the termination of the Carnival, he hired a beard and blouse. The former he returned on the following day, but the blouse has not been forthcoming, and the account he gives of it is highly unsatisfactory; but suspicion is not confined to him. His paramour, the wife of the murdered man, is deeply implicated. By entries in Keller's memorandum-book it appears he has lately received considerable sums of money from the woman; but the darkest discovery is that of a bloody footmark near the secretaire containing the money of the unfortunate man, in the room adjoining to that in which he slept, and which exactly corresponds with the foot of the woman; but, as she was discovered bound hand and foot and incapable of moving, it is presumed she herself assisted to rifle the secretaire, and then submitted to be bound, in order to give an appearance of her being rather a victim than an accomplice in the deed. However, Keller is in prison and the woman under strict surveillance. At the July assizes at Newwed, where the trial will take place, the facts, such as have been collected, will be fully disclosed, and the guilt or innocence of the suspected persons pronounced.

Prices of Stocks, Railway Shares, &c. RAILWAYS AND PUBLIC COMPANIES.

From the list of Messrs Holderness, Fowler, and Co., Stock and Share Brokers o Change alley, Cornhill.

Table with columns: SHARES OF, RAILWAYS, PAID, CLOSING PRICE. Lists various railway and public company shares with their respective prices.

THE FUNDS. MONDAY.—Consols for money were first quoted at 94 1/2 to 95, and they left off at 94 1/2 to 95. India Stock closed at 219 to 222; India Five per Cent. 104 to 105; India Bonds, par to 4s. premium; and Exchequer Bills, 16s. to 20s. premium. TUESDAY.—Consols for money were done at 94 1/2 to 95, and they left off at 94 1/2 to 95. India Stock closed at 218 to 221; India Five per Cent. 104 to 105; India Bonds, par to 4s. premium; and Exchequer Bills, 18s. to 22s. premium; Rupee Stocks were 99 1/2 to 100 for the Five per Cent., and 105 1/2 to 106 for the Five-and-a-Half per Cent. WEDNESDAY.—Consols for money were done at 94 1/2 to 95, and they left off at 94 1/2 to 95. India Stock closed at 218 to 221; India Five per Cent. 104 to 105; India Bonds, par to 3s. premium; Exchequer Bills, 18s. to 21s. premium; and Rupee Stocks 99 1/2 to 100 for the Five per Cent. and 105 1/2 to 106 for the Five-and-a-Half per Cent. THURSDAY.—Consols for money were done at 94 1/2 to 95, for the 11th of April at 94 1/2 to 95. India Stock left off at 218 to 221; India Five per Cent. 104 to 105; Rupee Stocks 99 1/2 to 100, India Bonds par to 3s. premium; and Exchequer Bills, 18s. to 21s. premium. FRIDAY.—Consols for money were done at 94 1/2 to 95, for the account (11th April), 94 1/2 to 95; India Stock, 220 1/2; and Exchequer Bills, 18s. to 21s. premium. SATURDAY MORNING. ELEVEN O'CLOCK.

Table with columns: BRITISH, Price, FOREIGN, Price. Lists various foreign stocks and their prices.

BANK OF ENGLAND. An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending on Wednesday, the 14th day of March, 1860. Includes sections for Note Issued, Proprietors' Capital, Public Deposits, and Other Deposits.

Trade and Commerce. Metropolitan Cattle Market, MONDAY.—We have a larger supply of beasts, and trade is slow; prices on the average are therefore lower, although there is not much reduction in choicest kinds. Sheep also are rather more plentiful; the demand is, however, pretty good, and quotations are unaltered. Good calves are in demand. From Germany and Holland there are 150 beasts, 1,150 sheep, and 45 calves; Spain, 60 beasts; France, 14 calves; Scotland, 250 beasts; Ireland, 240; Norfolk and Suffolk, 2,500; and 150 from the Northern and Midland counties. THURSDAY.—There was about the usual supply of meat sent up to Thursday's market of late, and trade was rather dull, the high prices tending to check business. Prices ruled generally firm for everything except veal, which was a trifle lower.

Table with columns: Prices per Stone, At Market. Lists prices for various commodities like Beef, Mutton, Veal, Pork, Wheat, Barley, Oats, etc.

Corn Market, MONDAY.—After a heavy fall of snow Saturday night, the weather yesterday and to-day has been again mild. Since last Monday foreign supplies to this market have been small of Wheat, Flour, and Oats, but liberal of Barley. Our English supplies were large of Oats, but moderate of other Grains. At the ports of call from Black Sea a few more cargoes have got up, but sales are rarely made and full prices for everything. Wheat—With a fair attendance of regular customers, English found ready buyers, and in some instances is more money was obtained, the condition being somewhat improved for foreign the sale was only in retail without alteration from last quotations. Barley—All sorts found improved inquiry at the full prices of this day week. Oats—Heavy kinds were in request and quite as dear, while ordinary Russian were slow of sale without variation in value. Flour—Norfolks were generally held for 6d. improvement, 31s. to 31s. 6d. being the rates paid. American and French much as last week.

IMPORTATIONS. Into London from March 12, 1860, to March 15, 1860, both inclusive. Table with columns: Wheat, Barley, Oats, Malt, Flour.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

War Office, Pall Mall, March 13.—Brevet-Col D Russell, C.B., Inspecting Field Officer of a Recruiting District, to have the temporary rank of a Brigadier-General, while in command of a Brigade; Capt H M Clouston, 19th Madras Native Infantry, to be Major in the Army. Bankrupts.—W Ellis, Pennyfields, Poplar, shipjoiner. [Aubio, Moorgate street.—Emilio Weiss, Piccadilly, milliner. [Duncker, Great Marlborough street.—S Stevenson, Leicester, dealer in yarns. [Hawker, Leicester.—J Hasell, Bristol, soap manufacturer. [Peters and Miller, Bristol.—T Lofthouse, Sheffield, coal dealer. [Branson and Son, Sheffield.—D Green, Sheffield, joiner. [Parker and Son, Sheffield. Dividends.—April 4, T Hipkins and C C Sumner, Hillingdon, plate-glass manufacturer (separate estate)—April 3, E Masters, Mark lane, wine merchant—April 3, W Rex, Dunstons farm, Wandsworth, and Park lodge farm, Putney, cow-keeper—April 3, D Simpson, Hutton garden, goldsmith—April 3, T Barnaby, Woolwich and elsewhere, tallow chandler—April 19, T Morris, Newbridge, Glamorganshire, grocer—April 21, D and J C Sillars, Liverpool and Shanghai, merchants (separate estate)—April 3, M Gladstone and J C Bond, Manchester, general brokers—April 4, C W Hill, Birmingham, arvil maker—April 25, S J Back, Kingston-upon-Hull, tailor—April 25, J S Hamilton, Kingston-upon-Hull, auctioneer. Certificates to be granted, unless cause be shown to the contrary on or before the day of meeting.—April 4, J W Sumner, Relgate, builder—April 4, T Litchfield, Twickenham, surgeon—April 4, J B Latchford, late of Regent street, hosier—April 3, T Foreman and T Johnson, Faversham, Kent, carpenters—April 18, S J Back, Kingston-upon-Hull, tailor. Scotch Sequestrations.—W Cameron, Frenchi, manufacturer—J Stewart, Aberdeen, sa. cy trimming warehouseman.

Friday, March 16. War Office, March 16th, 1860.—2nd Regt of Life Grds: Cornet and Sub-Lieut C B K Alleyne has been permitted to retire from the Service by the sale of his Commission—6th Dragn Grds: W E Dakin, Gent, to be Cornet, by p. v Gair, prom; A Jones, Gent, to be Cornet, by p. v Blackett, who has retired—1st Dragns: C L Lane, Gent, to be Cornet, by p. v Caldwell, prom—6th Dragns: Lieut F P Chapman to be Capt, by p. v E F Dawson, who retires; Cornet J Baskerville, to be Lieut, by p. v Chapman—16th Light Dragns: C Church—Coldstream Guards: Capt the Hon G H Windsor-Clive, from the 52nd Foot, to be Lieut and Capt, v Adair, who exchs—5th Regt Foot: Assist-Surg J Wiles, from the Staff, to be Assist-Surg, v Cameron, dec—11th Foot: A W Ball, Gent, to be Ens, by p. v Irwin, prom—13th Foot: Assist-Surg T O'Brien, from the Staff, to be Assist-Surg, v Kirwan, who exchs—16th Foot: G R A Denne, Gent, to be Ens, by p. v Taylor, prom—17th Foot: Capt J Bellamy, from the 2nd West India Regt, to be Capt, v Davidson, who exchs—25th Foot: Ens J T Coke, from the 21st Foot, to be Ens; W L B Coulson, Gent, to be Ens, by p. v the appointment of Ens H Wilkinson to be Quarterm, has been antedated to 30th Dec, 1859—34th Foot: J O Gage, Gent, to be Ens, by p. v Jordan, from 37th Foot: Lieut S Hawkes to be Adj, v Banne, who resigns the Adjncy only—46th Foot: Ens S J Cartow, to be Lieut, without p. v Hamond, prom; Ens C C Swoke to be Lieut, without p. v Concher, dec—49th Foot: E Roberts, Gent, to be Ens, by p. v Aldworth, prom—52nd Foot: Lieut and Capt A W Adair, from the Coldstream Guards, to be Capt, v the Hon G Windsor-Clive, who exchs—73rd Foot: A J Ashmore, Gent, to be Ens, by p. v Galwey, prom—75th Foot: J O Vandeleur, Gent, to be Ens, by p. v Tarby, who retires; the resignation of Assist-Surg R Wood, as stated in the Gazette of the 21st Feb, 1860, has been cancelled—79th Foot: Lieut-Col R Grove, from h-p, Unatt, to be Lieut-Col, v Brev-Col Sir J Douglas, K C B, by p. v Grove, who retires; Brev-Maj K Maitland to be Maj, by p. v Butt, by p. v Allen—87th Foot: Assist-Surg W Armstrong, from the Staff, to be Assist-Surg, v Collins, who exchs—100th Foot: F Tanser, from the Staff, to be Ens, by p. v Moorson, prom—2nd West India Regt: Capt F Davidson, from the 17th Foot, to be Capt, v Bellamy, who exchs. Unattached.—Lieut J Evans, from the 88th Foot, to be Captain, without purchase. Brevet.—Capt and Brev-Maj A Bassano, 32nd Foot, to be Lieut-Col in the Army; Capt T Snow, 4th Bengal European Light Cavalry, to be Major in the Army; Capt and Brev-Maj J Maycock, of the 53rd Foot, to be Lieut-Colonel in the Army.

Bankrupts.—E Bland, Great Chapel street, Westminster, linendraper. [Reed, Gresham street.—W Burgess, Queen's prison, dealer in candles and soap. [Linklaters and Hackwood, Walbrook.—R Millar, jun., and E L Munns, Primrose street, Bishopsgate, wholesale and export oilman. [Harrison and Lewis, Old street.—J Mountford, Stoke-upon-Trent, Parian manufacturer. [James and Knight, Birmingham.—J Merriman, Nottingham, lace manufacturer. [Brown, Nottingham.—L Lowndes, Aberystwyth, draper. [Sevan and Co. Bristol.—J Evans, Bristol, cattle dealer. [Smith and Co. Bristol.—M Bowden, Bristol, fint glass manufacturer. [Smith and Co. Bristol.—J Harris, Lea Bally, Gloucestershire, innkeeper. [Abbot and Co. Bristol.—W Spicer, Kingston-upon-Hull, tobacconist. [Stamp, Kingston-upon-Hull.—T Lilley, North Shields, Kingston-upon-Hull, merchant tailor. [Nichol, Lincoln's-inn. Certificates to be granted unless cause be shown to the contrary on or before the day of meeting.—W Levett, Cannon street, Southwark, patent wading manufacturer.

Births.—On the 8th, at Twickenham, the wife of Sir Lionel Smith, Bart, of a daughter.—On the 12th, at Kettleston, Derbyshire, Lady Scarsdale, of a son.—On the 9th, the Countess of Antrim, of a daughter. Marriages.—On the 8th, the Marquis of Anglesey, to Ellen Jane, daughter of G Bannard, Esq.—On the 13th, A Worsley, Esq, to Marianne, youngest daughter of Colonel the Hon Hutchinson, of Weston, Northamptonshire. Deaths.—On the 9th, at Brighton, Lucy Cornwallis, younger daughter of John Swarbrick Gregory, of 35 Great Cumberland place, Esq.—On Monday the 12th, at Harewood, Herefordshire, Sarah, wife of Sir Hangerford Hoskyns, Bart, in the 32nd year of her age, deeply lamented.—On the 27th, Esq, after a long and painful illness, Mr Frederick Westmore, Storekeeper, Taylor street, Ararat.—On the 9th, at Hythe, H Mackeson, Esq, in his 88th year.—On the 3rd, Eliza, the wife of Mr Sergeant Ballantine, aged 37.—On the 24th nit, at Southampton, Mrs Elze, in her 82nd year.—On the 9th, at Brixton Hill, Mrs Gabriel, in her 92nd year.—On the 11th, at Marsh gate, Richmond, J Noyce, Esq, in his 86th year.—On the 12th at 26 Old Fish street, Mrs Lamb, in her 80th year.—On the 8th, at Stapenhill, Derby, in his 92nd year, the Rev G W Lloyd, D D.—On the 11th, at Ash Lodge, Finchley road, in his 86th year, C D Wagstaff, Esq.—On the 13th, at Edgworth, R T Cadbury, in his 92nd year.—On the 7th, at 256 Oxford street, Mrs Hatch, aged 86.—On the 10th, at Walthamstow, Mr Cosser, aged 82.—On the 10th, in his 90th year, H F Macdon, Esq, of Cathkin, Lanarkshire.—On the 10th, at Crawley, Sussex, E M Time, Esq, in his 80th year.—On the 11th, at Kempshott park, Basingstoke, E W Binnt, Esq, in his 81st year.—On the 11th, Mr King, of 6, Sheffield gardens, Campden hill, aged 81.

ROYAL ENGLISH OPERA, COVENT GARDEN. Under the Management of Miss LOUISA PYNE and Mr W. HARRISON. SPECIAL NOTICE.—Nine extra Performances of LURLINE. Commencing Monday, March the 19th, and terminating Wednesday, the 25th, end being for the Benefit of Miss Louisa Pyne, Managers. In consequence of the numerous inquiries at the Box-office the Management have arranged for Wallace's Grand Opera of LURLINE, to commence at a quarter-past eight each evening. Revival of ROMANCE, an Operetta, by Henry Leslie. On Monday and during the week the performances will commence with Henry Leslie's Operetta of ROMANCE, or Dick Turpin. Messrs St Albyn and G. Honey; Misses Thirwall and F. Cruise. After which Wallace's Popular Opera of LURLINE. Count Rudolph, Mr W. Harrison; Rhineberg, Mr Santley; Zolck, Mr H. Corri; Baron, Mr G. Honey; Ghiva, Miss Pilling; Liba, Miss F. Cruise; and Lurline, Miss Louisa Pyne. Conductor, Mr ALFRED MELLON. Doors open at Half-past Six, to commence at Seven. No charge for booking, or fees to box-keepers. Stage Manager, Mr EDWARD STIRLING. Acting Manager, Mr EDWARD MURRAY. Stalls, 7s.; Private Boxes, to hold four persons, from 10s. 6d. upwards; Dress Circle, 6s.; Amphitheatre Stalls, 3s.; Pit, 2s. 6d.; Amphitheatre, 1s.

THEATRE ROYAL LYCEUM. Sole Lessee and Directress, Madame Celeste. Eighth Week of the eminently successful Drama, A TALE OF TWO CITIES, and Last Week but One of the present Season. On Monday, March 19, and during the week, a New Drama, entitled THE ABBE VAUREUIL; or, The Court of Louis 15th. The Abbe Vaureuil, Madame Celeste. On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, LUCKY STARS. Barbara Bristles, Mrs Kealey. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, a New Comedietta, entitled "17 ARUNDEL STREET, STRAND." Principal characters by Mr Walter Lay, J. Rouse, Mrs Kealey, Miss Kate Saville, and Mrs Campbell. After which, Mr William Calvert's magnificent Translation of the new and successful Drama of A TALE OF TWO CITIES. Principal characters by Messrs Walter Lay, James Vining, Villiers, Forrester, Rouse, Johnstone, Lyon, Morton, Butler, Palmer, Clifford, White; Misses Kate Saville, Stuart, Turner, Campbell, and Madame Celeste.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL ADELPHI. Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr Benjamin Webster. Fourth Week of the new and original Comedy by Watts Phillips, entitled PAPER WINGS, in which Mr and Mrs Alfred Wigton will appear. On Monday and during the Week, ICI ON PARLE FRANCAIS. Messrs J. L. Toole, C. Selby, Billington; Mrs Chatterley, Mrs Billington, Miss K. Kelly, and Miss Laidlaw. After which, PAPER WINGS. Messrs A. Wigton, J. L. Toole, David Fisher, Billington, P. Bedford, Stuart, Rouse, C. J. Smith, Powell, Romet; Mrs A. Wigton, Miss E. Simms, K. Kelly, and Mrs Chatterley. To conclude with DINORAH UNDER DIFFICULTIES. Messrs J. L. Toole, P. Bedford, C. J. Smith, Eburne; Miss K. Kelly. Doors open at Half-past Six; to commence at Seven. Box-office open from Ten to Five. No charge for booking or fees to servants permitted. Acting Manager, Mr W. SMITH.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, COVENT GARDEN. Mr Gye has the honour to announce that the Season will commence on Tuesday, April 10th. The Programme, with full particulars of the arrangements, will be issued in a few days. Royal Italian Opera, March 14th, 1860.

ROYAL ST JAMES'S THEATRE, KING STREET, ST JAMES'S. Sole Lessee, Mr F. B. Chaterton. Directress, Miss Wyndham. On Monday, for the benefit of Miss Clara St Case, a variety of entertainments. On Tuesday and Wednesday, No. FORTY-NINE. After which, FIRST AFFECTIONS. To be followed by the successful Burlesque of DIDD. To conclude with MAGIC TOYS. On Thursday, for the benefit of Mr Charles Young, the Nautical Drama of BLACK-EYED SUSAN, and other entertainments. Reduced Prices.—Pit, 1s.; Gallery, 6d.

EXHIBITION.—"CROMWELL REFUSING THE CROWN OF ENGLAND."—Maguire's Grand Picture. Thirty Life-size Portraits.—On view at Leggat, Hayward, and Leggat's, 19 Cornhill. Admission on presentation of private address card.

FRENCH EXHIBITION, 120 Pall Mall.—The Seventh Annual Exhibition of Pictures, the contributions of Artists of the French and Flemish Schools, WILL OPEN ON MONDAY, the 19th inst. Admission, 1s. Catalogues, 6d. Open from Nine till Six daily.

DR KAHN will continue to deliver his Popular Lectures on "The Philosophy of Marriage," daily at Three and Eight, at his Museum, top of the Haymarket. Admission, One Shilling. Dr Kahn's Treatise on the above subject sent post free for twelve stamps, direct from the Author, 17 Harley street, Cavendish square.

OVERLAND ROUTE.—Communication by Steam to India, Australia, &c. via Egypt.—THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY BOOK PASSENGERS AND RECEIVE CARGO AND PARCELS FOR GIBRALTAR, MALTA, CORFU, EGYPT, ADEN, CEYLON, CALCUTTA, THE STRAITS, and CHINA by their Steamers leaving Southampton on the 4th and 20th of every month. For GIBRALTAR, MALTA, EGYPT, ADEN, and BOMBAY, by those of the 12th and 27th of each month; and for GIBRALTAR, MALTA, EGYPT, ADEN, BOMBAY, MAURITIUS, REUNION, CEYLON, KING GEORGE'S SOUND, KANGAROO ISLAND (for Adelaide), MELBOURNE and SYDNEY, by the steamers leaving Southampton on the 12th of every month. For further particulars, apply at the Company's Office, 123 Leadenhall street, E.C., London; or Oriental place, Southampton.

RUPTURES.—BY ROYAL LETTERS PATENT. WHITE'S MOC-MAIN LEVER TRUSS is allowed by upwards of 200 Medical Gentlemen to be the most effective invention in the curative treatment of HERNIA. The use of a steel spring, so often used in its effect, is hereby avoided; a soft bandage being worn round the body, while the requisite resisting power is supplied by the MOC-MAIN PAD and PATENT LEVER fitting with so much ease and closeness that it cannot be detected, and may be worn during sleep. A descriptive circular may be had, and the Truss (which cannot fail to be forwarded by post, on the circumference of the body, two inches below the hips, being sent to the Manufacturer, MR JOHN WHITE, 238 PICCADILLY, LONDON.

ELASTIC STOCKINGS, KNEE CAPS, &c. —For VARICOSE VEINS, and all cases of WEAKNESS and SWELLING of the LEGS, SPRAINS, &c. They are porous, light in texture, and inexpensive, and are drawn on like an ordinary stocking. Price, from 7s. 6d. to 15s. each; postage 6d. JOHN WHITE, MANUFACTURER, 238 PICCADILLY, LONDON.

REMOVAL.—THE CIGAR and TOBACCO WAREHOUSES—Messrs TOSWILL and CO. have removed from Monument Yard and Padding Lane to No. 7 Bucklebury, Chesapeake, Genuine Foreign Havana and Havana Cigars of every brand and kind, from 2s. per pound, duty-paid; and British-made Havana, 6s. 6d., 8s. 6d., and 10s.; Cheroots and Pick-wicks, 6s. and 8s. 6d.; Toswill's Royal Union, 12s. 6d. equal to Foreign.

HANDSOME BRASS and IRON BEDSTEADS.—HEAL and SON'S Show Rooms contain a large assortment of Brass Bedsteads, suitable both for Home use and for Tropical Climates; handsome Iron Bedsteads with Brass Mountings and elegantly japanned; Plain Iron Bedsteads for Servants; every description of Wood Bedstead that is manufactured, in Mahogany, Birch, Walnut Tree woods, Polished Deal and Japanned, all fitted with Bedding and Furniture complete, as well as every description of Bed-Room Furniture.

HEAL and SON'S ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE containing designs and prices of 100 Bedsteads, as well as 150 different articles of Bed-Room Furniture, sent free by post. HEAL and SON, bedstead, bedding, and Bed-Room furniture manufacturers, 190 Tottenham court road, W.

KEATING'S COD LIVER OIL.—The PALE NEWFOUNDLAND, pure and tasteless; the LIGHT BROWN, cheaper, and of good quality. The demand for these Oils, most highly recommended for their medicinal properties, has so greatly increased, that Mr. Keating, being anxious to bring them within the reach of all classes, now imports direct, the Pale from Newfoundland, and the Brown from the Norwegian Islands. The Pale may be had in half-pints, 1s. 6d., pints, 2s. 6d., quarts, 4s. 6d.; the Light Brown, in pints, 1s. 6d., quarts, 3s.,—at 19 St Paul's Churchyard.

KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES.—What Diseases are more fatal in their consequences than neglected Coughs, Colds, Sore Throats, or Lungular Affections? The first and best remedy is Keating's Cough Lozenges. Prepared and sold in boxes, 1s. 1d.; and tins, 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., and 6s. 6d., each, by Thomas Keating, Chemist, &c., 79 St Paul's Churchyard, London. Retail by all Druggists.

COUGHS and COLDS.—Freedom from Coughs is secured by DR LOGOCK'S PULMONIC WAFERS. They give instant relief, and a rapid cure of asthma, consumption, coughs, colds, and all disorders of the breath and lungs. To singers and public speakers they are invaluable for clearing and strengthening the voice. They are most pleasant to the taste. Price 1s. 1d., 2s. 9d., and 11s. per box. Sold by all Chemists.

ASTHMA, COUGHS, COLDS.—From the Rev. Morgan James, Rhymney Iron Works, Aberystwyth: Sir,—I have tried one box of DR LOGOCK'S PULMONIC WAFERS for my voice, and received great benefit from them. Dr. Logock's Cough Lozenges give instant relief, and a rapid cure of asthma, consumption, coughs, colds, and all disorders of the breath and lungs. Price 1s. 1d., 2s. 9d., and 11s. per box. They have a pleasant taste. Sold by all Medicine Vendors.

COUGHS, COLDS, RHEUMATISM, &c. The most valuable Medicine ever discovered for Colds, Coughs, Agues, Fevers, Rheumatism, Pains in the Limbs and Joints, and for most Complaints where Colds are the origin, is DIGEY'S Original and the only Genuine DR BATEMAN'S PECTORAL DROPS. (Sold in Bottles at 1s. 1d. and 2s. 9d. each, Duty included.)

As there are various Imitations of this excellent Medicine by different Pretenders, all of them inferior to the true Preparation, Purchasers are requested to be very particular in asking for "DIGEY'S BATEMAN'S DROPS," as all others are Counterfeit. Sold at the Original Warehouse, No. 10 Bow Church yard, London; and by all the principal Country Stationers and Vendors of Medicines. See that the words "DIGEY and Co." are engraved on the Government Stamp.

WHITE and SOUND TEETH are indispensable to personal attraction, and to health and longevity by the proper mastication of food. ROWLANDS' ODONTO, or PEARL DENTIFRICE, improves and imparts a pearly whiteness to the Teeth, eradicates tartar and spots of insipid decay, strengthens the Gums, and renders the breath pure and fragrant. Price 2s. 9d. per box.

ROWLANDS' KALYDOR, exerts the most soothing, cooling, and purifying action on the skin, eradicates pimples, spots, and discolorations, produces a healthy purity of complexion and a softness and delicacy of skin. Price 4s. 6d. and 8s. 6d. per bottle. Sold by A. ROWLAND and SONS, 20 Hatton garden, London, and by Chemists and Perfumers. Beware of spurious imitations.

A TOILETTE REQUISITE for the SPRING. Among the many luxuries of the present age none can be obtained so cheaply as the manifold virtues of OLD BRIDGE'S BALM OF COLUMBINE. It is applied to the roots and body of the hair it imparts the most delightful coolness, with an agreeable fragrance of perfume. It also at this period of the season prevents the hair from falling out; or if already too thin, or turning gray, will prevent its further progress, and soon restore it again. Those who really desire beautiful hair, either with wave or curl, should use it daily. It is also celebrated for strengthening the hair, freeing it from sour, and promoting new hair, whiskers, and moustache. Established upwards of 30 years. No relative can equal it. Price 3s. 6d., 6s., and 11s. only—C. and A. OLD BRIDGE, 13 Wellington street North, Strand, W.C.

METCALFE, BINGLEY, and CO.'s New Pattern and Penetrating Tooth Brushes, Penetrating and bleached Hair Brushes, Improved Flesh and Cloth Brushes, and genuine Smyrna Sponges; and every description of Brush, Comb, and Fertilizer for the Toilet. THE TOOTH-BRUSHES search thoroughly the cavities of the Teeth, and clean them most effectually—the hairs never come loose. M. B., and Co., are sole makers of the Oatmeal and Camphor and Orris Root Soaps, sold in tablets (bearing their names and address) at 6d. each; of Metcalfe's celebrated Alkaline Tooth Powder, 2s. per box. Sole Establishment, 130A and 131 Oldford street, 2nd and 3rd doors west from Holles street, London.

DECAYED TEETH and TOOTHACHE. HOWARD'S ENAMEL for stopping decayed teeth, however large the cavity. It is used in a soft state, without pressure or pain, and hardens into a white enamel. It remains in the tooth many years, rendering extraction unnecessary, and arresting the decay.—Sold by all medicine vendors. Price 1s.

DECAYED TEETH RESTORED.—Teeth Replaced.—Mr A. ESKELL, Surgeon-Dentist, begs to introduce to the notice of the public his recently discovered OSTEOPLASTIC ENAMEL, superior to any other for restoring decayed teeth, rendering them perfectly sound, of proper natural colour, lasting many years, and applied without pain. Post free for 30 stamps; directions enclosed. Mr A. Eskell's Incurable Artificial Teeth, at 10s. each, including all charges on his never-failing and perfect principle of self-adhesion, rendering detection impossible. Comfort and perfection combined. Loose teeth fastened, &c. Consultations free.—31a Regent street (facing Polytechnic), and Bennett's Hill, Birmingham. Established 1847. P.S.—No fee accepted unless perfect satisfaction be given.

THE most efficacious Remedy for RHEUMATISM, LUMBAGO, PAINS in the LIMBS, CHILBLAINS before they are broken, &c. is DREDDY'S HEAL-ALL, the celebrated Embrocation which has long been known through the West of England as so successful in alleviating the pains of the above disorders, giving ease after the first application, and, if repeated according to the directions, seldom failing to effect a perfect cure. Price 1s. 1d. and 2s. 9d. per bottle.—Please observe that the names of "Harley and Sons, Farringdon street," are engraved on the government stamp.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT and PILLS.—March winds are noted for producing great disturbance in the circulation, whence proceed Bronchitis, Sore-throat, Diphtheria, and multitudes of ailments resulting from variable temperatures. A chill or cold should always have instant attention, as serious consequences may spring from neglect. All may rub Holloway's Ointment on the skin, over the affected parts, with the certainty of mitigating previous sufferings and averting all future danger. This Ointment penetrates the skin and revives the feeble circulation in subcutaneous organs, purifies the blood, and restores every function. In urgent and chronic cases, Holloway's Pills (taken while the Ointment is being used) expedite and ensure a speedy cure; which in most cases will be thorough, radical, and lasting.

PIANOFORTES. CRAMER, BEALE, and Co. NEW MODEL OBLIQUE GRAND PIANO, and every description, warranted. Lists of prices, and terms for hire, post free. 201 Regent street.

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LURLINE.—WALLACE'S NEW GRAND OPERA, for the Pianoforte, as Solos and Duets, by W. H. Galletti; also Fantasias and Rondos for "Lurline," by Wallace, Faragher, Osborne, and other eminent composers. Valves and Quadrilles from "Lurline." Cramer, Beale, and Co. 201 Regent street.

LURLINE.—The following are the favourite pieces in WALLACE'S new and successful OPERA, LURLINE—"Under a Spreading Coral," "Take this Cup of Sparkling Wine," "Flow On, oh, Silver Rhine," "When the Night Winds," "Sweet Spirit, Hear my Prayer," sung by Miss Pyne; "Gentle Troubadour," sung by Miss Filling; "Our Bark in Moonlight Beaming;" "Sweet Form that on my Dreamy Gaze," "The Chimes of Home," sung by Mr Harrison; "A Father's Love," "Love, Transient Passion," sung by Mr Santley. Cramer, Beale, and Co. 201 Regent street.

PATENT £6 6s. WHEATSTONE'S FIVE-OCTAVE HARMONIUM has double pedals, with soft agreeable quality of tone. Manufactured by the Patentee, Wheatstone and Co. 20 Conduit street, Regent street.

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NOTICE TO VOLUNTEERS. E. MOSES and SON employ a SPECIAL STAFF of ostlers and workmen for the Uniforms of VOLUNTEER RIFLE CORPS, and are therefore able to execute all orders with promptitude, and at their usual moderate scale of charges. N.B.—Estimates for both Uniform and Accoutrements may be obtained at either of their Establishments, Corner of Minorin and Aldgate, and Corner of New Oxford street and Hart street. Country Branches—Bradford, Sheffield, Yorkshire.

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The BESPOKE TAILORING DEPARTMENT contains a large and well-assorted Stock of English and Foreign Manufactures. The most skillful Cutters and Workmen are employed. E. MOSES and SON, Corner of New Oxford street and Hart street. If E. MOSES and SON wish to be patronized, observed that if any article is not approved of, it will be exchanged, or the money returned, without hesitation. Their book, containing a sketch of the history of British Costume, with rules for Self-Measurement and Lists of Prices, gratis on application, post free.

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DR DE JONGH'S (Knight of the Order of Leopold of Belgium) LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL, Administered with the greatest success in cases of CONSUMPTION, BRONCHITIS, ASTHMA, COUGHS, RHEUMATISM, GOUT, GENERAL DEBILITY, DISEASES OF THE SKIN, RICKETS, INFANTILE WASTING, AND ALL SCROFULOUS AFFECTIONS. Is incomparably superior to every other kind. The recorded investigations of numerous eminent British and Foreign medical practitioners have placed beyond the reach of refutation the fact that no invalid can possibly realize the full beneficial effects of Cod Liver Oil, who does not take Dr de Jongh's celebrated pure Light Brown Oil. OPINION OF EDWIN LANKESTER, Esq. M.D., F.R.S., Late Lecturer on the Practice of Physic at St. George's Medical School, Superintendent of the Food Collection at the South Kensington Museum, &c., &c. "I believe that the purity and genuineness of this Oil are secured in its preparation by the personal attention of so good a Chemist and intelligent a Physician as Dr de Jongh, who has also written the best medical treatise on the Oil with which I am acquainted. Hence I should deem the Cod Liver Oil sold under his guarantee to be preferable to any other kind as regards genuineness and medicinal efficiency."

Sold only in IMPERIAL Half-Pints, 2s. 6d.; Pints, 4s. 6d.; Quarts, 8s.; and, as usual, and labelled with Dr de Jongh's stamp and signature, and warranted that none can possibly be genuine, by respectable Chemists. SOLE COGNISEES, ANSAR, HARBORD, and CO. 77 STRAND, London, W.C.

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THE BEST and CHEAPEST TEAS and COFFEES IN ENGLAND ARE TO BE OBTAINED OF PHILLIPS and CO. TEA MERCHANTS, 8 King William street, City. Good strong useful Tea, 2s. 5d., 2s. 10d., 3s., and 4s.; rich Souchong, 3s. 8d., 3s. 10d., and 4s. Pure Coffee, 1s., 1s. 2d., 1s. 3d., 1s. 4d., 1s. 6d., and 1s. 8d. Tea and Coffee to the value of 40s. sent carriage-free to any Railway Station or market town in England. A price current free. Sugars at market prices. All goods carriage-free within eight miles of the City.

"WHAT do the wild Waves say now?"—Why, that you will spend an ocean of money in your journey to Pekin, and, query, will you then be able to buy your TEA at the present low price? The celebrated 5lb. bag as low as 2s. 4d. per lb. black, green, or mixed; splendid Souchong or Congou, 3s. 8d.; Coffee in the berry, 10d. per lb.—EAST INDIA TEA COMPANY, 9 Great St Helen's churchyard, Bishopsgate street.

THE EAST INDIA TEA COMPANY (Limited).—The only Company who import their own Tea and supply the public direct.—A clear saving of 15 per cent. on the retail price of Tea from 2s. 4d. per lb. of Coffee in the berry, from 10d. per lb.—Fine Lapsang Souchong in pounds, 3s. 8d.—Warehouses, 9 Great St Helen's churchyard, Bishopsgate street.

COCOA. TAYLOR BROTHERS' PATENT LENTILIZED COCOA Is pronounced by Professor Letheby and Dr Hassall to be superior in nutritious element to all others. See their Reports Printed on the Labels of each Canister. SOLD BY ALL GROCERS at 1s. 6d. PER LB.

TRADE MARK. BROWN and POLSON'S PATENT CORN FLOUR. The Lancet states, "This is superior to anything of the kind known." It is respectfully announced that to any application by letter, Brown and Polson forward the address (for any village or town in the Three Kingdoms), of Grocers, Chemists, &c. who supply their Corn Flour at the usual price. When any similar article is substituted or forced into sale upon pretence of being "the same thing," or "as good as Brown and Polson's," if the name, address, and designation are kindly communicated such confidence will be greatly appreciated. BROWN and POLSON, Manufacturers to her Majesty the Queen, Paisley, and 23 Ironmonger lane, London.

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FRENCH. PORTS, SHERRIES, &c. &c. ... 20s. 24s. per dozen. CATALANIAN SHERRIES ... 20s. 24s. CHAMPAGNE (Sparkling) ... 22s. 30s. 42s. SPANISH. ARRAGONNESE PORTS ... 20s. 24s. CATALANIAN SHERRIES ... 20s. 24s. EXCELLENT DINNER do. ... 22s. 32s. 42s. PORTUGUESE. RED LISBON ... 20s. 24s. PORT from the Wood ... 20s. 24s. Do. (Old Crusted) ... 22s. 32s. 42s. SPIRITS. COGNAC BRANDY, Pale or Brown ... 20s. 24s. per gallon. HOLLAND ... 12s. 15s. EXCELLENT BRANDY, Pale or Brown (strongly recommended for its usefulness) ... 18s. GIN, RUM, WHISKY (Scotch and Irish), FOREIGN LIQUEURS, &c. &c. Detailed Price Lists forwarded on application. WINE IN CASE, Forwarded Free to any Railway Station in England. Bottles included in Wines—Sample Bottles of any Wines forwarded. TERMS CASH. Country Orders must contain a Remittance. Gros Cheques "Bank of London." J. L. DENMAN, 65 Fenchurch street, London, E.C.

SALT and CO., EAST INDIA PALE and BURTON ALE BREWERS, Burton-on-Trent. LONDON ... Hungford wharf LIVERPOOL ... 72 Henry street MANCHESTER ... 37 Brown street BIRMINGHAM ... Old Court House, High SHEFFIELD ... 12 George street BRISTOL ... 10 Stephen street NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE ... Manor Charr DUBLIN ... 11 Temple lane N.B.—SALT and CO.'s Ales may be obtained in glass from the principal Bottlers in the Kingdom, a list of whom will be supplied by their Agents, on application.

CROSSE and BLACKWELL, PURVEYORS in ORDINARY to HER MAJESTY. INVITE attention to their PICKLES, SAUCES, TART FRUITS, and other Table Delicacies, the whole of which are prepared with the most scrupulous attention to wholesomeness and purity. C. and B. have for many years enjoyed the high honour of supplying her Majesty's Table with their Manufactures. A few of the articles most highly recommended are—Pickles and Tart Fruits of every description, Royal Table Sauce, Essence of Shrimps, Soho Sauce, Essence of Anchovies, Orange Marmalade, Anchovy and Blister Pastes, Strawberry, and other Fatted Meats, Calf-foot Jellies of various kinds for table use, M. Soyer's Sauces, Relish, and Aromatic Mustard. Carstairs' Sir Robert Peel's Sauce, and Payne's Royal Osborne Sauce. To be obtained of all respectable Grocers, Grocers, &c., and wholesale of Crosse and Blackwell, 21 Soho square London.

HARVEY'S FISH SAUCE.—Notice of Injunction.—The admirers of this celebrated Fish Sauce are particularly requested to observe that none is genuine but that which bears the best label with the name of WILLIAM LAZENBY, as well as the front label signed ELIZABETH LAZENBY, and that for further security, on the neck of every bottle of the Genuine Sauce will henceforward appear an additional label, printed in green and red, as follows:—"This notice will be affixed to Lazenby's Harvey Sauce prepared at the original warehouse, in addition to the well-known labels, which are protected against imitation by a perpetual injunction in Chancery of 9th July, 1858."—6 Edward street, Portman square, London.

IMPERIAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, 1 Old Broad street, London: Instituted 1820. DIRECTORS. FREDERICK PATTISON, Esq. Chairman. JAMES BRAND, Esq. Deputy Chairman. Thomas George Barclay, Esq. Samuel Hibbert, Esq. James C. Bell, Esq. Thomas Newman Hunt, Esq. Charles Cave, Esq. James Gordon Murdoch, Esq. George William Cottam, Esq. William B. Robinson, Esq. George Henry Cutler, Esq. Martin Tucker Smith, Esq. Henry Davidson, Esq. M. F. George Field, Esq. Newman Smith, Esq. George Hibbert, Esq.

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CAUTION.—"59th GEO. III. c. 7, sec. 8," entitled, "An Act to Regulate the Cutlery Trade in England," provides "That any offence against the Act may be committed to prison by Two Justices of the Peace for Three Calendar Months." We hereby give Notice that we shall take proceedings against any person or persons selling or manufacturing any article of CUTLERY stamped with intent to counterfeit or imitate our Corporate Mark, "The Sun," granted to us by "The Cutlers' Company," June 26th, 1835.

QUEEN'S CUTLERY WORKS, SHEFFIELD. And 67 and 68 KING WILLIAM STREET, LONDON, E.C. Table cutlery, razors, pocket cutlery, and scissors, of their own manufacture, in stock for exportation, at Sheffield prices. FREDERICK DENT, Chronometer, Watch, and Clock Maker to the Queen and Princes Consort, and maker of the Great Clock for the Houses of Parliament, 61 Strand, and 34 Royal Exchange. No connection with 33 Cookinry street.

BENNETT'S WATCHES, 65 and 64 Chesapeake, in Gold and Silver, in great variety, of every construction and price, from 3 to 60 guineas. Every watch fully examined, and its correct performance guaranteed. Free and safe per post. More Orders to John Bennett, Watch Manufacturer, 65 and 64 CHEAPSIDE.

FURNITURE.—Gratis: A New and elaborately illustrated Catalogue, containing over 300 designs of furniture, Bedsteads, Bedding, &c., with prices and estimates for all classes of houses. Country orders, carriage free. Lewin Crowthorpe and Co., 22 and 23 Queen's building, Knightbridge, London. N.B. A very elegant and complete Walnut Drawing-room suite to be sold for 33 Guineas, recently cost 60 Guineas; Dining-room ditto in Spanish Mahogany, 23 Guineas, and 2 handsome and complete bed-room Suites in fine Mahogany and Birch, with winged Wardrobes, and Marble top Wash Stands, 25 Guineas. The whole of the above are decided bargains.

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SERVANTS' LIVELIES.—The best, at moderate prices, furnished, for cash payments, by H. J. and D. NICOLL, 114, 116, 118, and 120 Regent street, W.; 22 Cornhill, E.C., London, and No. 10 St Anne's square, Manchester.

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LONDON BOARD.—SAMUEL BAKER, Esq. Chairman. LIVERPOOL BOARD.—CHARLES TURNER, Esq. Chairman.

The Royal Insurance Company is one of the largest Fire Offices in the Kingdom.

The Annual Meeting held in August the following highly satisfactory results were shown:—

The most gratifying proof of the expansion of the business is exhibited in the one following fact—that the increase of the last three years exceeds the entire business of some of the existing, and of many of the recently defunct fire insurance companies of this Kingdom.

The Premiums for the year 1855 being £130,000 while the Premiums for the year 1858 are 197,148 showing an actual increase of 50 per cent. in three years.

The amount of new life premiums received this year is by far the largest received in any similar period since the commencement of the business, and must far exceed the average of amounts received by the most successful offices in the Kingdom.

The steady as well as rapid advance of this Branch can be seen from the following table showing the accession of NEW Business since the alternate years from 1854 to the present date.

Table with 4 columns: Year, No. of Policies, Sum Assured, Premiums Paid. Rows for 1854, 1855, 1856.

Clearly evidencing that within the short space of Four years the New Business alone of the ROYAL has nearly TRIPLED IN AMOUNT. This large increase within so short a space is mainly attributable to the magnitude of the Bonus in 1856—being no less than 2½ per cent. per Annum on the sum assured—

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The number of Policies issued by this Company during the nine months ending 31st March last was 22,901, insuring £2,800,000, and producing a net amounting to 22,716 £ 9s. 6d. being at the rate of upwards of 30,000 £ per annum.

The Annual Report and every information furnished on application to WILLIAM CANWELL, Secretary.

NORWICH UNION FIRE INSURANCE SOCIETY. NOTICE.—LADY-DAY RENEWALS.

Losses by Fire occurring during the Fifteen Days of Grace are made good to the assured.

The business of the Company exceeds £16,000,000. The duty paid to Government for the year 1858 was £78,932, and the amount insured on farming stock £10,107,581.

A bonus of three-fourths of the profits periodically made to parties insuring, who have thus from time to time received sums amounting in the aggregate to £400,000.

The rates of premium are in no case higher than those charged by the other principal offices making no return to their insurers.

For prospectuses apply at the Society's offices, Surrey Street, Norwich, and 6 Crescent, New Bridge Street, Blackfriars, E.C.

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The directors of this Company are prepared to receive applications for allotment of this Stock, which will be inscribed on the Books of the Company in the names of the allottees, free of stamp duty or other charge.

The dividends are payable on the 1st of January and the 1st of July, by warrants on the Company's Bankers transmitted to the proprietors. They constitute a first charge on all the profits of the Company, and will begin to accrue from the day the Stock is paid for.

The Preference Stock in this Company will carry any arrear of dividends that may at any time arise, and such arrear will be paid prior to payment of any dividend on the ordinary stock.

The present paid up capital of the Company is 200,000 £. The Dividends paid since the commencement have averaged 10 per cent. per annum, and the present amount of reserve fund is 1,300,186 £ 11s. 11d.

Further particulars and forms of application may be obtained at the Office of the Company, 24 Gresham Street, E.C. By Order of the Directors, G. GRAINGER, Secretary.

COAL.—GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY.—King's-cross and Holloway Depots.—The present PRICES of COALS, brought to London and delivered by this Company (within five miles of the Depots) is as follows:—

Table with 2 columns: Coal Type, Price per Ton. Rows include Sitwell Main, Blacker, Darley Main, High Royd, Elsec, Gawber Hall, Worsbrough Park, Heyland, Old High Moor, Brigg, Emsay, and Oaks.

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MESSRS OSLER, 45 Oxford Street, London, W., beg to announce that their NEW GALLERY (adjoining their late premises), recently erected from the designs of Mr Owen Jones, is NOW OPEN, and will be found to contain a more extensive assortment of GLASS CHANDELIERS, Table and Chandelier Glass, &c., than their hitherto limited space has enabled them to exhibit.

NORTH BRITISH INSURANCE COMPANY.

Incorporated by Royal Charter and Act of Parliament. ANNUAL REPORT, 1860.

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the NORTH BRITISH INSURANCE COMPANY was held within the Company's Office, 64 PRINCES STREET, EDINBURGH, on MONDAY, 5th MARCH, 1860, in terms of the Constitution of the Company.

REPORT by the Directors was read, in which the following results were communicated:—

The PREMIUMS received during the year 1859, amounting, deducting Re-insurances, to £35,282 10 5 Being £4,986 14s. above the Receipts of last year.

668 NEW POLICIES had been issued, Assuring the sum of £449,913 0 0 And paying of ANNUAL PREMIUMS £14,070 1 0

The amount of CLAIMS under Policies emerged by death, was £48,650 0 0 In the ANNUITY BUSINESS, 26 Bonds had been granted, for which was received the sum of £18,074 17 3

The ACCUMULATED FUND now amounts to £1,031,454 0 0 And the ANNUAL REVENUE to £179,983 11 11

This being the FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY, the Directors submitted a Vidimus of the Transactions of the Company since its establishment in 1810.

The Company had paid to the Representatives of deceased Assurers £1,345,455, and had allocated to Policies as Bonuses out of Profits, the sum of £648,956 2s. 11d.

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by G. Warrender, Esq. younger of Lochend, the Report was unanimously approved, and the usual dividend of 5 per cent. on the paid-up Capital of the Company declared, free of Income Tax, payable on Monday, the 2nd April next.

The thanks of the Meeting were then voted to the Local Boards and Agents, and also to the Directors.

The Extraordinary and Ordinary Directors were then elected, and on the motion of LORD VISCOUNT MELVILLE, the thanks of the Meeting were voted to the Chairman.

HEAD OFFICE.—64 Princes Street, Edinburgh. LONDON OFFICE.—4 New Bank Buildings, London.

BRANCH OFFICES. GLASGOW.—102 St Vincent Street. DUBLIN.—67 Sackville Street. MANCHESTER.—Cross Street. LIVERPOOL.—Exchange, Newcastle—Sandhill. OFFICE BEARERS. All of whom are Shareholders.

His Grace the Duke of Roxburgh, K.T. Vice-PRESIDENT. The Most Noble the Marquis of ABERCORN, K.G. The Right Honourable the Earl of STAIR. DAVID SMITH, MANAGER.

LONDON BOARD. CHAIRMAN.—SIR PETER LAURIE, Alderman. DEPUTY-CHAIRMAN.—JOHN J. GLENVILLE, Esq. WILLIAM BORDALE, Esq. JOHN CONNELL, Esq. ARCHIBALD COCKBURN, Esq. SOLICITOR.—ALEXANDER DOUGLAS, Esq. LANCASTER PLACE. SCOTLAND.—2 Strachan. 4 New Bank Buildings, Lothbury.

ESTABLISHED 1825. CROWN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY. LONDON.—38 NEW BRIDGE STREET, E.C. EDINBURGH.—45 GEORGE STREET. DUBLIN.—46 DAME STREET.

DIRECTORS. WILLIAM WHITMORE, Esq. Chairman. OTTAVIUS O'MANNERY, Esq. Deputy-Chairman.

John Chapman, Esq. G. Chippindale, Esq. J. C. H. de Colquhoun, LL.B. Edward J. Daniell, Esq. Edward Hamilton, Esq. George Hankey, Esq. H. W. Harrison, Esq. George Sparkes, Esq.

Funds Invested £547,000 Annual Income 116,000 Claims paid 1,150,000 BONUS YEAR. Persons Assuring on or before the 25th March next will be entitled to one full year's share in the profits then to be divided.

The Bonuses become vested after payment of the third premium. The Profits will be divided in every Fifth year after the 25th March next.

No extra premium is charged for service in any Volunteer Corps within the United Kingdom during Peace or War. B. HALL TODD, Secretary and Actuary.

SCOTTISH UNION INSURANCE COMPANY (FIRE and LIFE), 37 CORNHILL, LONDON. GEORGE STREET, EDINBURGH, and DAME STREET, DUBLIN.

Incorporated by Royal Charter. His Grace the DUKE of HAMILTON and BRANDON. Right Hon. the EARL of MANSFIELD, President. And Eight Acting Directors.

FACTS and FIGURES. Capital paid up, and undivided profits, £253,254 Accumulated Life Fund, £17,432 Annual Revenue from 6 sources, upwards of, 130,000

Amount of Life Insurances in force, £1,000,000 The New Life Policies issued during the year ending 1st August, 1859, were 522

Some insured thereby, £252,740 0 0 Yielding of New Premiums, 7,514 1 9 The Funds of the Company are securely invested, chiefly upon Mortgage or Real Securities, and in the Government and Public Funds.

The next investigation into the Life Department and Declaration of Bonus will be made as at August, 1861, and parties taking out Policies before 1st August, 1860, will participate in one year's additional bonus over later entrants.

No extra premium charged for Members of the Volunteer Rifle Corps, so long as they remain within the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.

Forms of Proposals and Prospectuses, containing all the necessary particulars, may be had at the office, or from any of the Company's Agents, 37 Cornhill, London, February, 1860. Secretary to the London Board.

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PETER MORRISON, Managing Director. December, 1859. Prospectuses and forms sent free on application.

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London: Printed by CHARLES BETHELL, of High street, Putney, at his Printing-office, Number 18 Little Pultney street, in the Parish of St James, Westminster, in the County of Middlesex, and published by GEORGE LEVING, of Number 5 Wellington street, in the Strand, in the shire of County of Middlesex, at Number 5 Wellington street aforesaid.—Saturday, March 17th, 1860.

