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The Political Economist.

A COMPARISON: ENGLAND AND THE UNITED STATES. THE NAVIGATION LAWS.

On all hands it is admitted that the only nation in the world with which the British shipowner is likely to experience a severe contest in the competition for the carrying trade of the world, is the United States of America. Next to England they possess the largest fleet in the world; and, next to England, they have the largest exchange of their natural products for those of other countries. The recent change in the Navigation Laws of this country, has been fully reciprocated by the United States. All that we gave to them on the 1st of January, 1850, the day on which the repeal of our Navigation Laws took effect, they on the same day gave to us. In the two countries the actual state of the law, so far as regards each other, is the same. In the foreign trade the ships of both have precisely the same advantages in each country. We have had one full year's experience of this state of things; and so far, therefore, as that brief period is concerned, we have it now in our power to compare the extent to which each has been able to avail itself of the trade of the other. For while the portion of our shipowners who adhere to the principles of Protection are constantly talking of the large share of British trade which the ships of the United States enjoy, they entirely overlook the other side of the picture, and fail to consider the still larger portion of the trade of the United States which our ships enjoy, and of which we are enabled to avail ourselves, only because of the concessions which we have wisely made to them.

We have now lying before us the Annual Report of "COMMERCE AND NAVIGATION" for 1850, made by the Secretary of the United States, pursuant to an act of Congress. We have also before us the Annual Report of "TRADE AND NAVIGATION," 1850, for the United Kingdom presented to Parliament in February last. From these two documents we are enabled to make an exact comparison of the foreign shipping of the two countries for the last official year.

The following table shows the quantity of tonnage entered inward and outwards in the foreign trade of the United States, distinguishing the countries to which the ships belonged:—

STATEMENT of the National Character of the Ships Entered Inward and Cleared Outwards, in the United State, 1850.

National Character of the Vessels.	Cleared Outwards.	
	Tons.	Tons.
American ships	2,573,016	2,632,785
Foreign:—		
Russian	26,283	25,253
Prussian	15,901	12,192
Swedish	58,093	59,246
Danish	11,746	11,220
Hanseatic	74,776	77,870
Dutch	8,567	10,859
Belgian	5,193	5,131
Mecklenburg	1,635	740
Oldenburg	2,003	1,964
Hanoverian	1,727	2,145
British	1,450,539	1,404,739
French	30,762	27,644
Spanish	37,296	36,273
Portuguese	3,730	2,409
Austrian	7,483	6,457
Sardinian	11,790	9,852
Sicilian	5,703	4,455
Mexican	2,786	3,065
Venezuelan	1,713	1,938
Brazilian	2,382	1,899
New Grenadian	693	1,618
Argentine	702	484
Cisplatine	255	313
Chilian	6,712	8,754
Hawarian	1,941	1,524
Peruvian	3,650	5,232
Tahitian	272	676
Equadorian	564	1,028
Haytian	307	307
Central American	204	78
German	354	...
Lubec	...	594
Neapolitan	...	410
Chinese	...	98
Total	1,775,623	1,728,214
Grand total	4,328,619	4,361,002

From this table we derive the following results:—

1. That the inward and outward entries of ships of all kinds, to and from the United States, in the last year, amounted to 8,689,641 tons.
2. That of this entire quantity of tonnage cleared inward and outward, 5,205,804 tons belonged to the United States, and 3,483,837 tons to foreign nations.
3. That of 3,483,837 tons of foreign shipping employed in the trade of the United States in 1850, no less than 2,855,338 tons consisted of British ships, while the shipping of all the other countries of the world engaged in the United States trade was only 628,499 tons.
4. That it follows that the whole of the shipping engaged in the foreign trade of the United States consists of 60 per cent. of American shipping and 40 per cent. of foreign.
5. That the British shipowner has now obtained 32 per cent. of the whole of the foreign trade of the United States, and 82 per cent of that portion carried on by foreign ships.

Such is the state of the American trade at the close of the first year of perfectly reciprocal free trade with this country in matters of navigation. Let us now turn to the accounts of the United Kingdom for the year ending Jan. 5th, 1851. They are as follows:—

Entered Inwards.	Cleared Outwards.	
	Year 1850. Tonnage.	Year 1850. Tonnage.
United Kingdom and its Dependencies	4,078,544	3,960,754
Foreign:—		
Russia	88,289	74,965
Sweden	64,732	60,917
Norway	218,329	113,395
Denmark	136,594	148,669
Prussia	224,514	179,857
Other German States	240,256	225,331
Holland	116,410	121,024
Belgium	35,274	36,501
France	156,932	212,072
Spain	23,717	21,611
Portugal	11,682	7,414
Italian States	97,215	97,693
Other European States	23,667	19,491
United States of America	595,191	620,034
Other States in America, Africa, or Asia	2,030	2,658
Total Foreign	2,035,152	1,946,214
Grand total	6,113,696	5,906,978

From this table we derive the following results:—

1. That the inward and outward entries of ships of all kinds, to and from the United Kingdom, in the last year amounted to 12,020,674 tons.

2. That of this entire quantity of tonnage cleared inward and outward, 8,039,308 tons consisted of British shipping, and 3,981,366 tons of foreign ships of all kinds.

3. That of the 3,981,366 tons of foreign shipping employed in the trade of the United Kingdom, 1,215,225 tons consisted of American ships, and 2,766,141 tons of the ships of all other nations.

4. That it follows that the whole of the shipping engaged in the foreign trade of the United Kingdom consists of 67 per cent. of British and 33 per cent. of foreign tonnage.

5. That the American shipowners have obtained only 11 per cent. of the whole of the foreign trade of the United Kingdom, and 35 per cent. of that portion carried on by foreign ships.

Considering the great importance attached by the shipowners of this country to the competition of the United States, the value of the facts elicited by the comparison now instituted cannot be overrated, for they show how infinitely more we have gained than lost by the policy we have pursued.

They show that, while the United States employed in their whole foreign trade 8,698,641 tons of shipping, of which 40 per cent. consisted of foreign ships and 60 per cent. of national ships, the United Kingdom employed no less than 12,020,674 tons, of which only 33 per cent. consisted of foreign, while 67 per cent. were of British ships.

They show that, while of the foreign shipping engaged in the American trade (being 40 per cent. of the whole), no less than 82 per cent. were British ships,—of that engaged in the British trade (being only 33 per cent. of the whole), only 35 per cent. consisted of American ships.

But the two by far the most important results shown by these facts are—1. That in the American trade, where all the great European maritime States enjoy the same advantages that our ships do, we are able to command, out of a trade of 3,483,837 tons of shipping, no less than 2,855,338 tons for British ships, leaving only 628,499 tons for all other foreign countries put together; and,

2. That while the United States are only able to command the trade of this country for the employment of their ships to the extent of 1,215,225 tons, being 11 per cent. of the whole, we have secured in their trade in the United States, employment for no less than 2,855,338 tons of British shipping, or 32 per cent. of the whole.

Who, then, may we not safely ask, has derived the greatest advantages from that policy which has thrown the trade open to our ships in all the important markets of the world? And what must foreign countries think of that party which is eternally attempting to alarm the country, in consequence of the foreign tonnage which shares in our trade, while we share in the trade even of that country, avowedly the most dangerous to us, to an extent more than double of that which they are able to secure here? England, with her enormous export trade, both in merchandise and shipping, is the last country that ought to be found preaching the doctrines of restrictions against foreign competition.

THE CRIMES OF ITALIAN DESPOTISM.

RIGHTS AND LIMITS OF FOREIGN SYMPATHISERS.

MR GLADSTONE'S letters to Lord Aberdeen have re-awakened popular feeling on a subject on which it should never be suffered to slumber. He spent a portion of last winter and spring in Italy, and was an eye and ear-witness to many of the transactions of the Courts of Rome and Naples:—what he there saw appeared to him so heinous, that he tried the effect of personal and private remonstrance through the medium of his friend Lord Aberdeen. His representations met with no attention; and he now, deliberately and reluctantly—all his sympathies as a Conservative overpowered and neutralised by his wider and nobler sympathies as man—comes forward to state to the English public, in the well-weighed and measured language becoming a profound scholar and a matured statesman, all the monstrous perjuries, the shameless oppressions, the hideous cruelties, all the black atrocities committed in his sight by those barbarous and stupid Courts.

We may feel certain, before opening the pamphlet, that those could be no slight or transient iniquities which could induce a man like Mr Gladstone, reserved in his habits, fastidious in his tastes, aristocratic and mediæval, or at least anti-popular in his sentiments, and strictly monarchical in his tendencies—an influential member of one Conservative Cabinet, and probably a still more prominent member of future Ministries—to appeal to his fellow-countrymen through the medium of the press, on behalf of those Patriots whom the revolutionary movements of 1848 raised to power, and against those Monarchs who were restored by foreign bayonets, or the fear of them, with the consent and approbation—we grieve to say it—of a large proportion of Englishmen. Accord-

ingly we find that he made this appeal as a last resort, and that the crimes and brutalities which he describes were such as to make silence almost equivalent to guilt. He writes in his second letter, some months after the first:—

On the Government of Naples I had no claim whatever; but as a man I felt and knew it to be my duty to testify to what I had credibly heard, or personally seen, of the needless and acute sufferings of men. Yet, aware that such testimony, when once launched, is liable to be used for purposes neither intended nor desired by those who bear it, and that in times of irritability and misgiving, such as these are on the continent of Europe, slight causes may occasionally produce, or may tend and aid to produce, effects less inconsiderable, I willingly postponed any public appeal until the case should have been seen in private by those whose conduct it principally touched. It has been so seen. They have made their option.

He then describes the Constitution which the King of Naples had solemnly accepted and sworn to maintain,—establishing a limited monarchy—elective chambers—taxes legal only when parliamentarily imposed—individual freedom, responsible to law alone. He quotes the oath sworn by the King, “of our own full, free, and spontaneous will,” as follows:—

In the awful name of the Most Holy and Almighty God, the Trinity in Unity, to whom alone it appertains to read the depths of the heart, and whom we loudly invoke as the judge of the simplicity of our intentions, and of the unserved sincerity with which we have determined to enter upon the paths of the new political order;

Having heard, with mature deliberation, our Council of State; We have decided upon proclaiming, and we do proclaim, as irrevocably ratified by us, the following Constitution.

He then shows the way in which every clause of this Constitution has been deliberately and systematically violated; how personal liberty has been outraged and trampled under foot; how justice is habitually set at nought both by judges and police, till not a vestige of it remains; how “all taxes are imposed and levied under royal authority alone;” how “the monarchy of Naples is perfectly unlimited and absolute;” how, under official authority and proceeding, it is supposed from an official pen, a catechism is taught in all the primary schools, inculcating not only that no Sovereign can be bound by any oath he deems injurious or injudicious, but preaching the doctrines of absolutism and slavery in their nakedest and blackest form. Mr Gladstone goes on to show that the *whole Liberal party* of the late Chamber, moderate and extreme alike, have been exiled or imprisoned; he describes the infamous measures adopted to procure the conviction of the accused, both by judicial tricks, by suborned witnesses, and by manifest and proved forgeries; and he then lays before his readers a specimen of the treatment of political opponents by the King of Naples, by selecting what he himself saw of the case of Poerio, one of the most moderate and respected of the Deputies, a Cabinet Minister, against whom no charge whatever could be sustained by evidence that before any honest tribunal would have been listened to for a moment. He had been condemned to 24 years of irons:—

In February last, Poerio and sixteen of the co-accused (with few of whom however, he had had any previous acquaintance) were confined in the *Bagno* of Nisida, near the Lazaretto. For one half hour in the week, a little prolonged by the leniency of the superintendent, they were allowed to see their friends outside the prison. This was their sole view of the natural beauties with which they were surrounded. At other times they were exclusively within the walls. The whole number of them, except I think one, then in the infirmary, were confined night and day in a single room of about sixteen palms in length by ten or twelve in breadth, and about ten in height; I think with some small yard for exercise. Something like a fifth must be taken off these numbers to convert palms into feet. When the beds were let down at night there was no space whatever between them; they could only get out at the foot, and being chained two and two, only in pairs. In this room they had to cook or prepare what was sent them by the kindness of their friends. On one side the level of the ground is over the top of the room; it therefore reeked with damp; and from this, tried with long confinement, they declared they suffered greatly. There was one window, of course unglazed; and let not an Englishman suppose that this constant access of the air in the Neapolitan climate is agreeable or innocuous; on the contrary, it is even more important to health there than here to have the means of excluding the open air, for example, before and at sunset. Vicissitude of climate, again, is quite as much felt there as here, and the early morning is sometimes bitterly cold.

Their chains were as follows:—Each man wears a strong leather girth round him above the hips. To this are secured the upper ends of two chains. One chain of four long and heavy links descends to a kind of double ring fixed round the ankle. The second chain consists of eight links, each of the same weight and length with the four; and this unites the two prisoners together, so that they can stand about six feet apart. Neither of these chains is ever undone, day or night. The dress of common felons, which, as well as the felon's cap, was there worn by the late Cabinet Minister of King Ferdinand of Naples, is composed of a rough and coarse red jacket, with trousers of the same material—very like the cloth made in this country from what is called devil's dust; the trousers are nearly black in colour. On his head he had a small cap which makes up the suit; it is of the same material. The trousers button all the way up, that they may be removed at night without disturbing the chains.

The weight of these chains, I understand, is about eight rotoli, or between sixteen and seventeen English pounds for the shorter one, which must be doubled when we give each prisoner his half of the longer one. The prisoners had a heavy limping movement, much as if one leg had been shorter than the other. But the refinement of suffering in this case arises from the circumstance that here we have men of education and high feeling chained incessantly together. For no purpose are these chains undone; and the meaning of these last words must be well considered—they are to be taken strictly.

We will content ourselves with one more quotation—partly in order to avoid the necessity of using any extreme epithets ourselves—partly by way of showing the impression left upon the mind of a sober, humane, and reflective mind by royal crime, as it appears in all its unveiled enormity at Naples:—

It is not mere imperfection, not corruption in low quarters, not occasional severity, that I am about to describe: it is incessant, systematic, deliberate violation of the law, by the power appointed to watch over and maintain it. It is such violation of human and written law as this, carried on for the purpose of violating every other law unwritten and eternal, human and divine; it is the wholesale persecution of virtue when united with intelligence, operating upon such a scale that entire classes may with truth be said to be its object, so that the Government is in bitter and cruel as well as utterly illegal hostility to whatever in the nation really lives and moves and forms the main-spring of practical progress and improvement; it is the awful profanation of public religion, by its notorious alliance, in the governing powers, with the violation of every moral law under the stimulants of fear and vengeance; it is the perfect prostitution of the judicial office, which has made it, under veils only too threadbare and transparent, the degraded recipient of the vilest and clumsiest forgeries, got up wilfully and deliberately, by the immediate advisers of the Crown, for the purpose of destroying the peace, the freedom, ay, and even if not by capital sentences, the life, of man among the most virtuous, upright, intelligent, distinguished, and refined of the whole community; it is the savage and cowardly system of moral as well as in a lower degree of physical torture, through which the strong and too true expression used, "This is the negation of God erected into a system of government."

The effect of all this is, total inversion of all the moral and social ideas. Law, instead of being respected, is odious. Force, and not affection, is the foundation of government. There is no association, but a violent antagonism, between the idea of freedom and that of order. The governing power, which teaches of itself that it is the image of God upon earth, is clothed in the view of the overwhelming majority of the thinking public with all the vices for its attributes. I have seen and heard the strong and too true expression used, "This is the negation of God erected into a system of government."

And yet this heinous system of cruelty is endured with a patience and resignation which, while they augment our sympathy with the innocent victims, aggravate into intensity our detestation of the ruthless oppressor.

We respect Mr Gladstone and are grateful to him for having raised his voice and borne his testimony against these regular crimes. We hold, with him, that we are not called upon to be passive and cold spectators of these and similar enormities, merely because the scene of them is a country separated from us by mountains or by seas, and the victims of them are men speaking a different language, and trained under different institutions to our own. We cannot sympathise with those who preach the selfish and narrow doctrine that each section of the great Commonwealth of Nations is an isolated and self-sufficient unit, and has no concern with the well or ill-faring of the other sections. We abjure this doctrine both in its grosser ancient, and its colder modern form; both when it rejoiced at the misfortunes, and now when it calls upon us to be careless of the prosperity of our neighbours. We believe that in proportion to the triumph of commercial freedom, in proportion to the rapidity of intercommunication, in proportion to the closeness and extent of the bond of union between nations, is the profound interest which each is bound to take, and cannot help taking, in the progress, the well-being, the wrongs, and the sufferings of the rest. We believe, too, that this interest should be (and will be more and more as we advance to wider and higher views of civilisation and of duty), not the mere result and deduction of reasoning as to the reactive operation which their condition may and must have upon our own, but the prompting of a genuine and natural sympathy with brethren cast in the same mould and striving after the same perfection as ourselves—a sympathy to which egotism neither gives the clue, nor sets the limits. We are and must ever be profoundly concerned in the progress as well as in the issue of their struggles after a fuller development and a higher freedom, not only, nor principally, because the more extended their liberties, and the loftier and more firmly established their civilisation, the better neighbours and the better customers they will be to us—more disposed for pacific relations, more ready to offer friendly aid,—not because our liberties are safer for every nation that shares them, and our coffers fuller for every wealthy people that rises at our side; but because—independent of all these self-regarding considerations, and above them all, stronger than their motives, prior to their whisperings, louder than their voice—is a deep and solemn interest in the onward and upward progress of humanity—a holy and instinctive delight in witnessing, encouraging, and aiding the efforts and achievements of fellow-labourers in a common cause, and fellow-racers towards a common goal—an indescribable and resistless charm in watching every attempt at the solution of those political and social problems at which we ourselves have worked so anxiously, and so long.

We are not of those who hold that our sympathy should be confined to the suffering—ample enough, God knows—which lies within the four seas of Britain. We require no other justification for this wider sympathy we feel, than that it is natural we should feel it—that we are so made that we do feel it. It has always been the proud distinction of Englishmen that they have felt it. It has been their misfortune, and to a certain extent their reproach, that their ready sympathy and restless benevolence has not always been directed by the clearest knowledge, or guided by the soundest judgment. But wherever oppression has been exercised, wherever suffering or wrong has been heard of, their feelings of sympathy with the oppressed, and of indignation against the oppressor, have never been languid or tardy. In the case of the outraged Africans it was prompt, energetic, and pertinacious, till its exertions, unscientific as they were, have been crowned with an extraordinary measure of success. Are the victims of Italian dungeons less worthy of our pity? Are their suffer-

ings less severe—their wrongs less manifest—the pretences of their treatment less miserably flimsy? Are they less worthy of freedom and of justice? Is the nature of the victims less noble, or the character of the tyranny that tortures them less notoriously infamous? Far from it. In the case of both Neapolitans and Romans there is everything to warrant even an excess of sympathy: they are a gallant, high-minded, enthusiastic race; roused to revolution not by material wants, but by mental and moral aspirations; and moderate and forbearing even in their revolutionary zeal. They are a people of fine organisation and of noble capacities, and the Sovereigns that are enabled by foreign aid to crush and grind them are the most wretched, incapable, effete, and bad specimens of royalty that ever trampled on a helpless people.

We have duties—sacred, paramount, and prior—towards the wretched and unfortunate of our own country. We have duties, not less sacred nor less certain, to the true-hearted and suffering Patriots of all lands. "These ought we to have done, and not to have left the others undone." The historic theatre of great events is shifted from shore to shore. The battle-fields of humanity—the scenes on which the great interests of our race are from time to time brought to issue—on which the victories of Progress are fought and won—are not always on the same soil. Now it is Greece, now it is Italy, now England, and now Spain, that furnish the Marathon, the Rannymede, the Tours, the Leipsic, of nations—the hallowed spots where the mighty principles of Justice and Civilisation have been brought to a decisive arbitrement. And "wherever on the face of the whole earth the hand of Providence is most visibly at work"—wherever the deepest concerns of our common humanity are most palpably imperilled and at stake—there should our gaze be fixed, and thither should our sympathy be carried.

In what manner that sympathy should be manifested; within what limits the manifestations of it ought to be confined; when our feelings must be confined to representation and remonstrance; and when they may stretch out in active interference—are practical questions demanding the most scrupulous and self-controlled consideration. To interfere in the interior affairs of other nations, even to check intolerable oppressions or to secure the triumph of undoubted right, is rarely justifiable and scarcely ever wise; for liberties attained by foreign aid will seldom be fully appreciated or permanently maintained; and interference on one side begets interference on another, and would lead to interminable wars. It is one of the greatest improvements in the theory of international policy in the last half century, that foreign intervention has come to be considered as, if not wholly inadmissible, yet an act that requires stronger pretences and clearer apologies than formerly. So impressively do we feel the evil of it under nearly all circumstances, that we should be disposed to lay down the rule for our own national guidance, that not even the case of the best of people struggling against the worst of despots should be held to justify our interference. Each people must work out its own emancipation, nor look for, nor accept, at the hand of others

The gift of that which is not to be given
By all the blended powers of earth and heaven.

And however hard it may be to stand idly by while the wrong triumphs and the right is crushed, to trust sanguinely in final victory in the midst of actual defeat, and be content to appeal to the future to redress the balance of the existing generation and the present hour,—still we hold such self-restraint and abstinence from positive action to be in nearly all cases our duty. But this much, we think, we are entitled to require; to this extent we are entitled to show active sympathy:—we may fairly claim that if we—lovers of liberty wherever she rears her head—do not interfere in her behalf, so neither shall the votaries of absolutism interfere to put her down; that if we abstain from aiding to prosper and succeed the right, they shall, with equal abnegation, abstain from bearing strength and succour to the wrong; that if we content ourselves with sighs for the sufferers for freedom, they shall confine themselves to plaudits for the inflictors of tyrannic will. In every case of struggle between a people and their rulers the foreign adherents of the contending parties or of the opposite principles at stake, should form a ring and guard of reciprocal watchfulness around them, and satisfy themselves, and compel each other to be satisfied, *with seeing fair play*.

If this rule had been adopted and adhered to since the beginning of 1848, how different would have been the state of Europe now. The present disastrous condition of affairs is mainly owing to the fact that Despots have interfered, and Freemen have abstained from interfering. In nearly every instance during the last three years, the unassisted people proved stronger than their unassisted rulers. The people of Hesse triumphed with scarcely an active effort: they were crushed by Austrian and Bavarian arms. The Hungarians had made good their cause against the perjured and imbecile Emperor and the whole resources of his vast dominion: the colossal power of Russia was called in to overwhelm them; and had not Austria been thus set upon her legs by this extraneous aid, she would have been impotent to sustain, as she has done, the absolutism of Tuscany, Naples, and the reactionary States of Germany. Rome had cast off by an easy effort the miserable yoke of ecclesiastical

misgovernment, and was prospering in her course towards the organisation of a better system; she had dismissed the cardinals and routed the Neapolitan troops, when France, a sister republic and a mighty power, was not ashamed to step in to coerce her simple efforts, and to annihilate her infant liberties. If, instead of this lamentable conduct, the juster rule had been obeyed; if Russia and France had been as abstinent and forbearing as England, what a day might, ere this, have dawned upon the world!

We do not wish to weaken or complicate the statement of general principles of action with considerations applicable only to the individual case, or we might refer to the time when the present reigning house of Naples owed their throne to our exertions; when our fleet conveyed them to Sicily, protected them there, and preserved to them that beautiful and ill-used island; when, at our instance, they granted and we guaranteed a free Constitution to the Sicilians—a grant that was impudently revoked as soon as danger had passed by—a guarantee which was never enforced; when in their cause our national credit thus became stained and shaken; and when, as if to show that no one could mingle in the concerns of that perfidious court, our greatest naval hero incurred in their service the only stigma on his else untarnished honour. All these are matters, however, which cannot be forgotten, though we do not wish to dwell upon them here; but the recollection that the power which Ferdinand now possesses of perpetrating the enormous brutalities which Mr Gladstone has exposed is in great measure owing to our support of his family in past times, cannot but be a painful aggravation of the feelings with which we witness his iniquities.

But apart from active interference one way remains to us by which we may righteously and effectively manifest our sympathy with foreign sufferers, and our indignation at foreign criminals. We can so arouse and enlighten the national mind on the subject of these heinous deeds as to render that the voice of the whole British people, which is now only the voice of the cognizant and instructed few. We can, by steady and systematic efforts, do something to counteract those elaborate and shameless misrepresentations which have so misled and mystified our people, and have made the expression of English sentiments so feeble and ineffective abroad. The hearty and spontaneous voice of a great nation, unanimous in its tones of sympathy or of execration, has a power, a weight, a penetrating accent which neither tormentors nor victims can listen to unmoved: and it is for us to take care that, when our Foreign Minister feels called upon to remonstrate and protest, he may do so in the confidence that he is backed and strengthened by the undivided feelings of the nation; and that guilty and tyrannical States may be convinced that if our Government should feel called upon to act, it will act with the full force and the entire approval of the whole of England. Hitherto, we grieve to say, our conduct has been the very reverse of this. Many, both of the Liberals and the Tories, have done their best to weaken the hands and neutralise the efforts of our Government; they have united to backbite, to hamper, and to vilify our Foreign Secretary; to persuade foreign patriots that he was betraying them; to persuade foreign despots that he did not speak the sentiments, and would not be supported by the influence of the English nation. This ungenerous and silly conduct has worked irretrievable mischief—has often hindered our Government from taking the decided tone they might have desired to do, and has deprived their representations with absolute powers of the weight which would otherwise have been accorded to them. This is only one of the instances, though perhaps it is the most flagrant, in which the ignorant and shallow prejudices of the friends of liberal opinions have played into the hands of their opponents, and have fought in the ranks of the worst foes both of freedom and humanity.

We trust that the publication of Mr Gladstone's letters will do something to neutralise this mischief. They can scarcely fail to bring all Englishmen to one way of thinking on these matters; and they will show foreign Potentates that oppressions and atrocities like those of Ferdinand are equally detestable in the eyes of both parties who divide the influence of England between them: that the highest Tories and the strictest Conservatives are as much disgusted, outraged, and ashamed by the conduct of those who profess to be their equivalents and similitudes abroad, as the most extreme Liberals can be; and that whoever be in power here, proceedings like those in Rome, Austria, and Naples will be met with the same shout of execration. Mr Gladstone evidently, as a member of the Conservative party in England, feels strong shame at the character of those who profess to be the Conservative party elsewhere.

Without entering at length into the reasons which have led me thus to trouble you, I shall state these only:—*First*, that the present practice of the Government of Naples, in reference to real or supposed political offenders, are an outrage upon religion, upon civilisation, upon humanity, and upon decency. *Secondly*, that these practices are certainly, and even rapidly, doing the work of Republicanism in that country: a political creed which has little natural or habitual root in the character of the people. *Thirdly*, that as a member of the Conservative party in one of the great family of European nations, I am compelled to remember that that party stands in virtual and real, though perhaps unconscious, alliance with all the established Governments of Europe as such; and that, according to the measure of its influence, they suffer more or less of moral detriment from its reverses, and derive strength and encouragement from its successes. This principle, which applies with very limited force to the more

powerful states, whose governments are strong, not only in military organisation, but in the habits and affections of the people, is a principle of great practical importance in reference to the Government of Naples.

Much of the want of sympathy, which Italian patriots have had to complain of in England, has arisen from the mistaken notions which are prevalent as to their character and capacities. We have been too much accustomed to regard the Italians, and the Neapolitans more especially, as effeminate, degraded, unfit for freedom, and unanxious for it. We have long been aware how far from the truth these notions are. We have long learned to regard the higher classes of Italians as, next to ourselves, the finest race in Europe, endowed with the richest organisation and the highest mental and moral capabilities. Their conduct throughout the struggles of 1848 and 1849, justified our high opinion of their powers, and our desire to aid in procuring a fair field for their development. "They were worthy for whom we should do this." We rejoice to see that Mr Gladstone bears testimony to their virtues.

I do not deny that there is some share of what we think degradation there; nor can it be wondered at, when we consider from what source the polluted waters of fraud and falsehood flow; but this I say, that the Neapolitans are over harshly judged in England. Even the populace of the capital is too severely estimated: the prevailing vices lie on the surface, and meet the eye of every one; but we scarcely give them the credit they deserve for their mildness, their simplicity, their trustfulness, their affection, their ready anxiety to oblige, their freedom from the grosser forms of crime. What will be said in England, when I mention, upon authority which ought to be decisive, that during four months of the Constitution, when the action of the police, too, was much paralysed, there was not a single case of any of the more serious crimes in Naples, among four hundred thousand people?

We do a fresh injustice when we extend to the various classes of the community, and to the inhabitants of all the provinces, the estimate too hastily formed even of the populace of Naples. Perhaps the point in which they are most defective is that of practical energy and steady perseverance in giving effect to the ideas, with which their high natural intelligence supplies them. But, while they seem to me most amiable for their gentleness of tone, and their freedom from sullenness or pride, they are, I must say, admirable in their powers of patient endurance, and for the elasticity and buoyancy with which in them the spirit lives under a weight that would crush minds of more masculine and tougher texture, but gifted with less power of reactive play.

We should willingly, had our space allowed, have added further extracts from Mr Gladstone's painful and graphic revelations. What we have quoted gives only a faint intimation of the horrors that lie beyond. Every one ought to read the pamphlet *in extenso*: it should lie on every table: it should be copied into every newspaper: it should be circulated in every parish in the kingdom. And we shall be much surprised if the perusal of it do not leave, in all well-conditioned English breasts, a conviction that they are dealing with one of those exceptional cases in which (to use the energetic and pregnant language of Burke,) "Morality will submit to a suspension of her own rules in favour of her own principles,"—in which any risk, any suffering, almost any means, would be justified, which should open the way of escape from so frightful and loathsome an abyss. Democratic convulsion is a horrid evil; war is a terrible and ruthless medicine; but there are worse evils than even war or revolution. There are perils and deprivations, deliverance from which is cheap at whatever cost:—and those slow oppressions which suck the life-blood of a nation—that poisoning of the fountains of instruction which forbids hope from the coming generation—that dull and leaden despotism which brutalises and stupifies, which destroys all faith in progress, all reverence for humanity—are of the number: and all these are at this moment rife and rampant in the Neapolitan dominions.

Enough has now been said to show that there are the strongest reasons for believing that, under the veil of secrecy which covers the proceedings of the Government of Naples, there lie hid the gigantic horrors to which I have alluded as affecting that country, desolating the entire classes upon which the life and growth of the nation depend, undermining the foundation of all civil rule, and preparing the way for violent revolution by converting the power, which is set up in human societies to maintain law and order, and to defend innocence and punish crime, into the grand law-breaker and malefactor of the country; the first in rank among oppressors, the deadly enemy of freedom and intelligence, and the active fomentor and instigator of the vilest corruption among the people.

PRESERVATION OF THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

A MAJORITY of the House of Commons has decided that the Crystal Palace shall be preserved till the first of next May. When the Exhibition was planned, the site in Hyde Park granted, and the contract for building the Palace entered into, the public had not the least conception of the nature of the building to be erected. We doubt whether even Mr Paxton himself, till some time after he had conceived the plan, could have formed an idea of the grandeur of the whole such as has been actually realised. The nation at large, undoubtedly, was taken by surprise, when it saw the grace and magnificence of the building. The nation being a party to the contract for erecting the building, should have its views considered when it is proposed to rescind the contract. It gave its consent to Hyde Park being appropriated to the purpose of the Exhibition, under a notion that the building would be a temporary shed, a sort of improved cattle show, a large ornamented booth, or at best a hasty erection of bricks and mortar, such as disfigure, even after much elaborate architecture, many parts of the metropolis. To appropriate a part of Hyde Park to such erections was considered a great infringement on

public convenience, and it was opposed by those who are now amongst the most strenuous advocates for continuing the building.

It was described as cutting off a part of one of the lungs of the metropolis, or as planting a tubercle in it to generate disease. It turns out that the sacrifice may be the adaptation to the lung of a protector which enables it to play freely and healthily in all states of the atmosphere. To disfigure the noble Park by any of the common buildings of which men had an idea, was denounced as a desecration; but the building erected is the greatest ornament, not only of the Park, but of the metropolis. It would be desecration to destroy it. It has been described as the one thing giving distinction and conferring honour on London. In churches and museums, in palaces and public buildings, London is equalled by some second-rate cities, but its Crystal Palace is unique. In form, materials, and rapid growth, it comes far nearer to our childhood's dreams of fairy halls and fairy land than anything before fashioned by the hand of man. The lath and plaster triumphal arches, carpets and flowers, lamps and illuminations, marchings of soldiers and processions of maidens for republican *fetes* or an imperial progress—all that has yet been invented in the East and the West for show, dwindles into utter poverty and paltriness compared to the Crystal Palace. Of the whole Exhibition, the building is the greatest wonder. To destroy it would be like ruthlessly putting an end to the most magnificent of our fancies, that seem to have no other imperfection than their want of durability.

Since it has been completed, the idea of wilfully destroying the fairy structure can have been cherished only in one head, and the bulk of the people have considered it a part of the metropolis, like the Houses of Parliament, Westminster Abbey, and the Parks. Any contracts made to pull it down previously to its existence in the name of the public must therefore be void. They were made in utter and complete ignorance of what was contracted, like a contract made with a child for the cession of an inheritance of the value of which he had not the most remote conception. The Commissioners of the Woods and Forests and the Commissioners of the Exhibition, who acted on behalf of the public, cannot, when the building is so utterly different from what the public expected, be held bound by any promises ruthlessly to destroy it. With the greatest respect for the property of those who claim, on account of some personal inconvenience, or some trifling deterioration of the value of their houses not yet proved, to have the building taken down, we must say that their claims cannot be granted. We are not of opinion that any property in the neighbourhood will be deteriorated. It cannot be said that privacy will be invaded, where already there is one of the chief thoroughfares out of London. But if it were, it is one of the inevitable consequences of the growth of population, which does not, as the rule, carry with it a deterioration of property. On the contrary, it generally increases the value very much, and those who derive from an increase of population large pecuniary benefits without any particular exertion of their own, may fairly set them off against the little inconvenience of being obliged to live somewhat more in the crowd. The promise they rely on was not made to them; they did what they could to oppose the erection, and were defeated. The pledge was made by the public authorities on behalf of the public, as they sometimes make much more solemn pledges with all the formality of an act of Parliament, and which they are very soon afterwards obliged, from having made them in ignorance, to violate. If it be held a full justification for altering or abolishing an act of Parliament, that circumstances unknown at the time of its enactment have arisen, surely the promise to remove a booth will not justify the wanton destruction of a fairy palace. The unexpected magnificence of the building is a sufficient reason for the new determination of the public and the vote of the House of Commons.

It should also be remembered that the Crystal Palace has many peculiarities which require to be tested by experience. It has stood through the summer;—will it resist the storms of autumn and the snows of winter? Is it as strong as it is beautiful? It promises to introduce many improvements into our dwellings;—will they answer? Many new and cheap modes of building have been suggested by it;—will they be successful? All these matters have to be put to the proof, and to pull down the Crystal Palace now would be to stop an important experiment half-way towards its completion, and refuse to avail ourselves of the benefit which carrying it out must be sure to bestow on us, whatever may be the result. For the purpose of science and art, as well as for the gratification of a national sentiment, the Crystal Palace must be preserved unchanged through the winter, and time will teach us whether it can be with advantage preserved permanently, or must be, like other fairy visions, parted from with regret, as an unsubstantial pageant. Mr Paxton is satisfied of its durability: let us put his assertions to the test.

To what uses it may be put, should it be found permanently advantageous to maintain it, seem to us rather a question for future consideration. It may be a winter garden, as Mr Paxton proposes, with an Italian winter climate; an adjunct of the Museum, a permanent exhibition of works of art, machinery, &c., classified and arranged, so as to throw light on the progress of industry in the past, from which we may infer its future progress. It may evolve the permanent principles of all arts, and enable us

regularly and systematically to introduce improvements in them, rejecting an infinity of alterations that are continually suggested, and which falling not in with the general principles, are not improvements, but deteriorations. It may be either or all these, but now that it is to be retained, we have no doubt that the genius which invented it, and the varied talents which have combined to make it the most successful and the most remarkable of modern contrivances, will apply it to some uses which shall be permanently as honourable and gratifying to the nation as the Exhibition itself. London needs such a building for an immense variety of purposes; and while the public and probably posterity will smile at the proposal made to destroy it, the public will rejoice that they were not successful.

As to the expense to the nation, we believe it will be little or nothing. All that will be required to keep it up, according to the estimate of the builders, is 5,500*l.* per annum. All that will be required to put it into an efficient condition, and adapt it to its new purposes as proposed by Mr Paxton, will be from 12,000*l.* to 15,000*l.* Before the Exhibition closes, it will probably realise enough to pay all its expenses, to pay for the building, purchasing it outright from the contractors, and to provide a fund for keeping it in permanent repair. We can conceive no worthier application of the money collected by the Commissioners than to procure by it, for the nation, the permanent use of the Crystal Palace, to be appropriated to an exhibition, museum, &c., without calling on the tax-payers for a contribution. But even supposing it should have to be kept up by taxation, the cost will be so small, and the uses of the building so many, and the public enjoyment from it in national reputation and in physical pleasure so great, as to make the retention of the Crystal Palace well worth paying largely for.

It was somewhat pompously announced in a morning journal several days ago, that it was quite decided by the Commissioners that the Palace was to come down; and that journal would fain have had the public believe that the main authors of the great work—those who have done much to confer on it dignity and power and popularity, while they have themselves more than any persons enjoyed it—were tired of it and wished it to be removed. But whoever else may have been sad and sorrowful at seeing so many enjoying people at the Exhibition, we may be quite certain that the most illustrious of its visitors were not amongst the number, and they have not suffered any inconvenience from the crowds that have swarmed into the neighbourhood of their residence. They would probably be as much afflicted as the most enthusiastic of the people, were the Crystal Palace not to remain a permanent ornament of the Park.

Whatever use may be made of the building, it will attract thither at all times an accession of visitors, but not such a concourse as now crowd to the temporary Exhibition. Of course the residents in the neighbourhood will not be so much afflicted, after it is settled that the building is to remain and may be visited at any time, by the presence of a great multitude of people as at present. Making it, as Mr Paxton proposes, a picturesque winter garden, will confer on them such great permanent advantages, as may well compensate for the temporary derangement of their habits by a momentary influx of strangers. Great as have been the advantages of Her Majesty's reign, and numerous as have been the benefits conferred on the nation since her accession, we may venture to doubt whether any event of her triumphant career have won, or ever can win for her greater popularity than the Exhibition, or have done so much to assimilate all classes and inspire all with one common sentiment of mutual respect. If for no other reason than as a memorial of an event leading to the most important moral results, the Crystal Palace should be preserved.

COMPETITION.—SHIPPING.

GEOLOGISTS inform us that the crust of the earth has undergone successive changes, and at different epochs, and in each epoch the plants and animals have been different; displaying in all epochs subsequent to what they suppose to have been the earliest a successive development, plants and animals of a more complete organisation succeeding to plants and animals of a less complete organisation, till man, the last created and the most completely organised of all, appears. Some astronomers have supposed that a similar process may be ascertained of all the orbs of heaven, amongst which there is an observed development or continued creation.

This law holds good of man himself, whose moral nature, if not his physical being—though even of this it seems true—is successively developed; and the civilised man, abounding in knowledge of nature, pressing the various elements of the material world into his service, is very different from, and we say superior to, the savage. As individuals more developed and more refined succeed to individuals less developed and less refined, so nations more knowing and more powerful than other nations have taken their places on the face of the earth. Races of animals have been extinguished, like the wolves in England, as well as races of men, and their place supplied by other animals or other races.

What is thus true in the outline of all nature is true in detail—true of classes of men, some of whom disappear like the copyists of manuscripts before the printers; and in our own time like

post-boys before engineers, stokers, and railway guards, and like hand-loom weavers before weavers using more complicated machinery. If we feel surprise or astonishment that all creation was not made perfect at once, to continue for ever without change, we cannot deny the fact that causes our astonishment. Perpetual change, perpetual development, perpetual progress is to be traced throughout the universe.

Under this law there must be always some animals, some classes of human beings, some nations making less progress than others, or decaying or dying out and making room for other animals, other classes, or other nations. Thus, before post-boys and hand-loom weavers, labourers in husbandry diminished in numbers in relation to the other classes of the community, and were reduced in condition; numerous small farmers too were annihilated and their farms consolidated. So, latterly, the Irish have diminished very much and are diminishing, making way either for such of themselves as comprehend the laws which govern the subsistence and the well-being of man in Ireland, or for other men who comprehend them. In all these cases of modern improvement we see distinctly that the race or the man who succeeds, possesses more knowledge, or a peculiar kind of knowledge of the powers of nature, and knows better how to apply it than the man or the race who fails. Nature works with the successful man and the thriving nation. They succeed by her power, and their success is the consequence of her laws, and of their understanding them.

Our shipping is subjected, like all other things, to this law, and many of our shipowners are at present in a similar condition to that of the post-boys and the hand-loom weavers. Their industry is being superseded by industry, in a mercantile point of view, of a more valuable description. The application of steam to propelling vessels and of steam to drag carriages on railroads is rendering many old sailing craft comparatively valueless. Margate hoys and Gravesend sailing smacks disappeared some thirty years ago, and their place is supplied by swift-moving steam Meteors and Jupiters. What happened to Margate hoys and Gravesend sailing smacks is now happening, on an extended scale, to our coasting vessels. It is cheaper and quicker to send sugar or corn between London and Lowestoffe or London and Yarmouth on the east, and between London and Hastings on the south, and London and Southampton on the west, by rail than by water, and this change puts an end to much coasting trade. Much of what is retained is carried on by steam-vessels, which are more safe and quicker than sailing vessels. They probably make three voyages where the sailing vessels make only two, or sometimes only one. The least efficient of our coasting vessels are thus continually beaten by the rapidly extending operations of railroads and steam-boats; they are continually beaten too by improved sailing vessels; they swell the amount of unemployed shipping; they are laid up, or they are sent into the market as general carriers, and the competition which ensues amongst shipowners leads to those low freights of which they so loudly complain.

The main cause of the deterioration of their property is the improvement in other modes of carriage. As Mr Lindsay said in a recent letter to the *Times*, "the improvements of the age are undermining, and will shortly annihilate that nursery for our seamen (the coasting trade), which our Government still vainly endeavour to protect." While the shipping interest has been buoyed up with the notion that it was to be protected as essential to the national safety, it has in reality been swamped by a competition from which it could not escape. Its supposed use as a means of national defence, or as a nursery for seamen, has no influence over the natural course of things. People will not pay more for having a ton of goods carried by water than for having them carried by land. Political reasons, unless they be enforced by pecuniary reasons, which, in the great majority of cases, laws however well intentioned cannot supply, will not preserve either mariners or post-boys in existence. The condition of their continuance and their success, that they do the real work of society—supply the wants of man cheaper and better than others; and, failing to do this, mariners and shipping, like post-boys and post-chaises, however useful to the nation as instruments of defence, will pass out of existence. Unfortunately the shipowners have neglected this great natural fact, and have relied on the supposed want of the State for their services, and on laws intended to benefit them, more than on their own exertions; they have relied more on the former than on the present demand for their labour; and have too often laid on their oars, instead of exerting themselves to keep pace with their rivals.

It is usual for those who do not succeed in the great struggle of life to complain of competition. The successful man exults in it. It is the stimulus to his exertion,—the means by which the most energetic, the most skilful, the most knowing obtain preponderance, and carry forward that moral development which is the law of nature. It is the means by which the imperfect are gradually weeded out of society, and individuals and the race are ennobled. The necessary consequence, however, of this is, that there must always be some classes less successful than others; some classes whose occupations are becoming comparatively valueless; and these classes, while the successful and the prosperous are silent, fill the land with complaints. The shipping interest, opposed as it now is by the new and thriving railway interest, is somewhat in

this condition; but it has, in the recent alteration of the Navigation Laws, a supposed political cause for its sufferings, and it throws all the blame of its decay on the alteration in the law. It has been taught to believe that the law made it the carrier of goods, and gave it goods to carry; it erroneously attributed its former success, which, like the present success of railroads, was derived from natural circumstances, to the Navigation Laws; and it just as erroneously attributes to the alteration of the law its present difficulties.

A part, too, of the present deterioration of some shipping is due to the improvement of other shipping. Ever since the peace, and ever since the Legislature began gradually to relax our Commercial and Navigation Laws, competition has been very active in trade. Great improvements have been successively made in navigation, and the shipping that has been least improved has been withdrawn and laid up. At the present time, clippers and ships of the largest size and most improved construction are tending as much to injure the owners of lesser and older vessels as railroads. "In 1848 (said Mr Labouchere) there were built 3 iron vessels of 1,300 tons, and 7 wooden vessels of 3,000 tons—making in all 10 vessels and 4,300 tons. In 1849 there were 7 iron vessels of 1,654 tons, and 10 wooden vessels of 5,703 tons—a total of 17 ships and 7,357 tons. In 1850 there were 13 iron ships of 4,562 tons, and 17 wooden ships of 9,935 tons—making a total of 30 ships and 14,497 tons, or exactly double the amount of tonnage built in 1849. He congratulated the house on the extraordinary improvement that had taken place in the quality of the ships and the increased amount of tonnage." That is the sort of improvement by which one class of shipowners drives another class off the water; yet many of these gentlemen, while they are so cruel towards their brethren, complain bitterly of numerous little shipowners being unable to stand their ground against competition in consequence of the alteration in the Navigation Laws.

As it in the course of nature that there should always be less successful or decaying classes in society, it may be regretted that legislation ever makes itself responsible for a fate which it has no power to avert. But it too often undertakes to make all classes prosperous, and must expect, therefore, that every decaying and suffering class should attribute its sufferings and decay to legislation. That, too, is the fact. There is not a single class which suffers, whether it be hand-loom weavers or princely merchants, post-boys or shipowners, but accuses the Legislature. Nobody supposes indeed that it can prevent competition, or stop invention and improvement; it cannot therefore prevent suffering and decay, though blame is generally cast on it as if it were the master of all nature.

It is a part of the system of nature—of gradual and general improvement, that the Irish—who have failed to comprehend the phenomena of human existence in Ireland—should not hold their ground in that country. In the last ten years the empire has lost from that portion of it a considerable number of people. Taking the whole empire, the population in that period, as we mentioned on the 5th ult., has increased only at the rate of 2½ per cent., while the population of the United States has increased at the rate of about 35 per cent. In the ten years we lost by emigration somewhat more than 1,500,000 people, and the United States gained, from all Europe, a greater number. Though the bulk of the Irish may have contributed little to the trade and wealth of the empire, their services were more required and more valuable in the States, and they could help to increase the resources and add to the trade and shipping of the States. Here, then, in the relative increase of population in the two countries, is a cause wholly independent of the alteration of our Navigation Laws for the relative greater increase of the shipping of the States than of our shipping, which the shipowners and their advocates attribute chiefly to the alteration. Against such a change in the relative population of the two countries, and all its consequences, no legislation can be of any avail, and we can only console with our unhappy and suffering shipowners, whose foreboding patriotism can see nothing but decay for England in the growth and prosperity of the United States.

The same reasons which forbid all attempts to increase competition in particular employments, also forbid all impediments to competition. Mr Lindsay, in his letter to the *Times*, complains of unnecessary and unjust consular fees—of men-of-war depriving merchant vessels when abroad of their crews—of shipowners being obliged to man their vessels with three-fourths British subjects—of men-of-war receiving salvage when they assist merchant vessels—of the tax on policies of marine assurance and on foreign timber—of English merchant vessels not being allowed to use bonded stores while in port—of the light and tonnage duties—and of Lloyd's registry of British and foreign shipping; all of which are proper subjects of inquiry and redress, but not one of them (all of them having grown up with the Navigation Laws) can be lessened, or removed, or mitigated, by restoring those laws. Mr Lindsay is sensible of this, and his chief recommendation is, as the coasting trade cannot be protected against the rail, that it should be thrown open, and America asked in return to open her coasting trade to English vessels. To that recommendation the only available objection refers to revenue, not trade; and if tha

can be surmounted the Legislature will no doubt comply with the shipowners' request, and throw open a trade that can no longer be protected.

THE MESSAGE OF THE CHURCH TO LABOURING MEN:

A SERMON, PREACHED AT ST JOHN'S CHURCH, CHARLOTTE STREET, FITZROY SQUARE, JUNE 22, 1851, BY THE REV. CHARLES KINGSLEY, JUN.

A STRANGE and somewhat indecorous scene which occurred in one of the district churches of St Pancras about a month ago, will be in the recollection of many of our readers. Mr Drew, the incumbent of the church in question, had requested the aid of several clergymen in the delivery of a series of Sunday evening lectures. When it came to Mr Kingsley's turn to preach, he delivered a discourse which astonished his hearers not a little, and which appeared to Mr Drew so monstrous and alarming, that that gentleman adopted the extraordinary course of entering the reading-desk as soon as Mr Kingsley had concluded, and expressing his regret that his pulpit should have been made the vehicle of a discourse which he denounced as unsound in doctrine and mischievous in tendency. It is difficult to say whether the congregation were more amazed at the language of the lecturer or at the rebuke of the incumbent. Mr Kingsley, however, was not a man to remain silent under imputations of heresy and error, or to submit quietly to reproof so strangely and unexpectedly administered; and accordingly he has published the sermon in question, in order that the public may be enabled to judge between him and his antagonist. On a perusal of the sermon, we are bound to say that we think Mr Drew was unquestionably in the wrong. We agree with him in considering the language to have been inconsiderate, the views to be unsound, and the tone culpable and mischievous; but there is nothing in all this which ought to have taken Mr Drew by surprise. He was a diligent and admiring reader of Mr Kingsley's writings; he had invited him to lecture in his pulpit distinctly on the ground of his approval of the sentiments and views therein developed; and, as the sermon contains nothing but what might have been naturally expected from the author of "Yeast," "Alton Locke," and the socialist writings of "Parson Lot," and scarcely anything that might not be found in those works, Mr Drew had no right to turn round on the man whom he had invited on the faith of his previous productions, and affect astonishment and disgust at a lecture which was neither more erroneous nor inflammable than the rest. Mr Kingsley is no unknown man; and no one in his senses could have requested him to officiate in a London pulpit, or to preach on such a subject as he had chosen and announced, without being prepared for much undisguised socialism, much questionable political economy, much unregulated enthusiasm, and much exciting and pernicious eloquence.

Bound as we are, both by profession and conviction, to those stern and rigid principles of political and economic science which are Mr Kingsley's especial horror, and the favourite topics of his vehement denunciations, we cannot avoid feeling a sincere respect for the man who is so deeply impressed with the sore evils, the extended wretchedness, the sad anomalies of modern city life, that he scorns the dry and innutritious sawdust which so many of his brethren are not ashamed day after day to cast before hungry souls as satisfying food, and rushes at the great enemy to which he attributes all the misery around him, with a zealous love that would do much if it were tempered with a wider charity and a more patient mind, and a courage which needs only a better direction and a less indiscriminate aggressiveness, to be worthy of all approbation. We cannot help drawing a favourable contrast between a man whose soul is so engrossed and lacerated by the sufferings and privations of those classes and sections whom the accidents of our complicated civilisation crushes in the dust, that he cannot stay, nor hold his peace, nor hear the warnings of those who would calm his excitement, and soften down his language, and moderate his pace; and others of the same profession, wearing the livery of the same Master, enlisted in the same cause, bound to the same championship, marching under the same sacred banner, repeating daily the same holy watchwords—living in a world teeming with misery which calls for comfort and relief, rent with wounds thirsty for the oil and wine of consolation which it is the blessed privilege of religion to administer, darkened with ignorance which it is their especial province to enlighten,—can yet find no deeper interest for their hearts, no worthier occupation for their time, no fitter medicine for the maladies of the social world, than discussions on baptismal regeneration and "preventive grace." While Henry of Exeter, and the thousand disputants on each side of his puerile and profitless controversies, are disgusting all rational and earnest laymen, and are fast alienating from the Church and from religion the hearts of the working classes,—it is men like Mr Kingsley, and his far safer and soberer coadjutor Mr Maurice, who, in spite of all their errors and incaution, are effectively fighting the battle of the Faith, by showing the deep spirit of generous sympathy and disinterested toil with which it can inspire some, at least, of the Ministers of Christ. Therefore, though in their opinions we conceive much to be unsound, in their language much to be dangerous, in their proceedings much to be suicidal and pernicious, we can never cease to

regard them as most estimable fellow-labourers in a most noble cause.

Mr Kingsley has a certain daring pugnacity in his character which constantly prompts him to state his opinions in the most startling form, to adopt language which is peculiarly liable to be misunderstood and to give offence, and to employ formulas of expression which, however correct and defensible in themselves, have been discredited by dangerous and criminal associations. If he can find a germ of truth in any phrase or watchword which has been consecrated to the cause of error, it has an irresistible charm for him. For example: "Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity," are the three sonorous and attractive words under whose banner and in whose name have been perpetrated the most savage cruelties, the darkest injustices, the most shameless oppressions, of modern times; so Mr Kingsley adopts them with emphatic and deliberate preference to express his views of the genuine teaching of Christianity. He has too much reverence to go quite so far as his French prototype, who spoke of "*le bon sans-culotte Jesus*," but he tampers with the same dangerous association of ideas, and does not scruple to proclaim to his hearers whose reading of these words is sure to be Gallic and political, that they embody the especial message which Christ came into the world to teach.

"I assert that the business for which God sends a Christian Priest in a Christian nation, is to preach and practise liberty, equality, and brotherhood, in the fullest, deepest, widest, simplest meaning of these three great words: that, in as far as he so does, he is a true Priest, doing his Lord's work, with his Lord's blessing on him: that, in as far as he does not, he is no Priest at all, but a traitor to God and man; and that if he persevere in his mistake—and a wilful mistake it must be—about his own work, the Lord of that Priest will come in an hour when he is not aware, and in a way he thinkest not of, and will, in fearful literalness, cut him *asunder!* and appoint him his portion with the unbelievers, where will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

"I assert this in solemn earnest. I believe that the awful words which I have just spoken mean far more than I can conceive. I believe that they apply to me as much as to any one else; that in saying them I have testified against myself, and called down on my own head the curse of God, if I do not preach the message of God. But I must do so. I must confess the truth, and give every man here a handle against me, on the strength of the words which I have chosen for my text. *I say those words express the very pith and marrow of a Priest's business. I say that they preach liberty, equality, and brotherhood, to the poor and rich for ever and ever.*" (p. 6.)

Now, it is undoubtedly true that there is a sense in which Christ preached, and in which all Christian ministers ought to preach, liberty, equality, and brotherhood. It is true that there is a sense in which these are the inalienable patrimony of all the sons of men. Liberty to do anything that violates no moral law, and interferes with no fellow-creature's rights; exemption from all arbitrary oppression, and from all restraint but that of law; a claim to equal protection, and to equal justice, and to a fair share only of the common burdens; a claim to fraternal sympathy and timely aid from all our fellow-men;—these undoubtedly are possessions which Christianity justifies us in holding to be the rightful inheritance of all men. But, liberty to choose, to cashier, and to disobey our rulers; a claim to equality of rank where there is no equality of capacity or virtue, and to an equal share of produce in return for an unequal share of the skill and labour which creates it; a fraternity which enables one man to say to his neighbour, "I am as good as you," though character and conduct proclaim him to be far inferior;—these claims Christianity scouts at least as mere worldly sense; and which of the two meanings was most likely to be attached to a phrase which our French neighbours have made so deplorably notorious, by a congregation of poor men and of Socialists, Mr Kingsley would have done well to reflect before he proclaimed them so dictatorially from the pulpit.

It has been a weakness of men and parties in all times to read the Bible through the spectacles of some cherished theory, to find in it the justification of their own sad and sinful delusions, and to make it speak the language of their own arrogant or angry passions. The old Crusaders read in it only exhortations to slay the infidels; the old Inquisitors conceived that it commanded them to extirpate heresy with fire and sword; and the old Covenanters were deaf to its messages of mercy and forbearance, but heard it re-echo all the fierce denunciations which were so dear to their unchastened spirits. To the Tory, the Bible preaches only subordination and obedience to the powers that be. To the sour and suffering Chartist it proclaims the justification of his dreams, and denounces woe against his oppressors. Each man is far too apt to read in it his own opinions, and to value it in proportion as it confirms them. We have seldom seen this perilous tendency carried further, or avowed more boldly than in Mr Kingsley's case. The strongest proof to his mind of the inspired wisdom of Moses is, that the Jewish lawgiver was, like Mr Kingsley, an advocate of "small holdings!"

"The Spirit of the Lord has appointed me to proclaim the 'acceptable year of the Lord.' Now, there would be no doubt in the minds of his hearers as to what He meant; for that year of the Lord, justly called acceptable and pleasant to the many,

"was one of the wisest of Moses' institutions, by which, at the expiration of a certain period, all debtors and bond-servants were released, and all land which had been sold returned to its original possessor: so that in Judea there could be no absolute or eternal alienation of the soil, but only, as Moses ordered, a lease of it, according to its value, between the time of sale and the next year of the jubilee. If I wanted one proof above all others of the inspired wisdom of Moses, I should choose this unparalleled contrivance for preventing the accumulation of large estates, and the reduction of the people into the state of serfs and day-labourers."

It is a perilous and irreverent habit to appeal to the Bible in support of this or that pet theory on subjects respecting which it contains no specific and avowed divine teaching applicable to all times. Questions in the science of political economy, as in every other science, must be argued and decided on purely scientific and independent grounds; and to press Biblical authority into a service for which it was not designed, and use it as a weapon of Socialistic controversy, is to incur two opposite and very serious risks:—either bad political economy is adopted from the fancied sanction which the Bible gives to it, or reverence for Scripture is impaired by artificially linking it with error. Passing over the inquiry how far a system specially ordained for God's "peculiar people"—an exceptional and separated race—can safely be taken as a precedent for universal application, we are surprised that it did not occur to Mr Kingsley that if the jubilee year were designed, as he conceives, to prevent the alienation of landed property, and its aggregation into large estates and few hands, it either entirely failed in its object, or was found so impracticable and inconvenient that it had to be abandoned; for in no country were complaints of this accumulation more frequent or bitter than in Judea, and the denunciations of Mr Kingsley himself against the practice which he imagines Moses was inspired to prevent, can scarcely rival in bitterness those which abound in the pages of the Hebrew Prophets. The very language which is so much in the mouth of Mr Kingsley and his fellow-socialists is from the pen of Isaiah: "Woe unto them that join house to house, that lay field to field, till there be no place, that they may be alone in the midst of the earth." The poor appear to have been oppressed in Palestine at least as mercilessly as elsewhere, and land to have been acquired as greedily and ruthlessly as in England. Moreover, this very law of inalienable inheritance would of itself almost ensure the agglomeration of large estates, and the subdivision of small ones, and be as fatal to that equality which Mr Kingsley preaches, and which he imagines Moses to have favoured, as any other principle of succession. Granting that the allotment to each family was equal at the outset, three or four generations of extreme prolificness in one family and unusually few children in another, added to the chances of collateral inheritance, would suffice to augment the patrimony of one man into a vast estate, and to diminish that of another into a mere potato-patch. Granting, therefore, as Mr Kingsley supposes, that Moses was an advocate of small freeholds and a sort of agrarian Socialist, his law of inalienable inheritance was certain, unless counteracted by a perpetual miracle, to defeat his own object.

The passage we have quoted is objectionable enough, but something worse follows:—

"Therefore, if those words of the Lord of all the earth (that he was come to preach 'the acceptable year'), mean anything, my friends, they mean this:—that all systems of society which favour the accumulation of capital in a few hands, which oust the masses from the soil which their forefathers possessed of old—which reduce them to the condition of serfs and day-labourers, living on wages and on alms—are contrary to the kingdom of God which Jesus proclaimed—contrary to the eternal justices and righteousnesses of the Spirit of God—contrary to the constitution of man, and the will of his Heavenly Father. And therefore I hold it the duty of every Christian Priest, upon the strength of that one single text—even if the same lesson did no run through the whole of Scripture from beginning to end—to lift up his voice like a trumpet and cry aloud, as I do now, 'How hardly shall they that have riches enter into the kingdom of God,' 'Woe unto you that are full, for ye have received your consolation already.' Woe unto you that make a few rich to make many poor. Woe unto you that make merchandise out of the needs of your brethren. Woe unto you; for God, the Father of all, is against you—God the Son, the poor man of Nazareth, is against you—God, the Holy Spirit, who cannot lie is against you." (p. 9.)

We have transcribed this passage with much pain; for more reckless deduction, more unsound doctrine, more mischievous and firebrand declamation, has seldom been compressed into a single paragraph. Mr Kingsley never seems so much in his element as when he is denouncing:—his eye brightens, his step quickens, his gesture becomes animated, and his style redundant. Not content with the denunciations of Christ and Isaiah, he adds others of his own; and of all the versions of the words of Jesus, he selects, by preference, the most vehement and the least supported. He chooses a perplexing and painful denunciation which is found in only one Evangelist, and which, if uttered, it is to be hoped, did not bear the meaning commonly attached to it; and he exclaims, "How hardly shall they that have riches enter into the kingdom of

God"—forgetting, or declining to remember, that Jesus himself, as if feeling that the expression was too unmodified, immediately after altered it for one which more accurately conveyed a solemn truth and his real meaning—"How hard it is for them that trust in riches to enter into the kingdom of God." Denunciations against the rich sound sweet in the ears of the suffering and irritated poor, and can scarcely fail to nourish unholy passions, which a Christian minister should, of all things, most fear to arouse and stimulate. Does Mr Kingsley really believe that those many wealthy and virtuous philanthropists, who, in their plenty, have never forgotten the indigent and needy, and whose wealth, while unquestionably adding to their own enjoyment, has been conscientiously employed in mitigating the sorrows and supplying the privations of those around them,—will in the end be denied felicity and doomed to woe on the plea that they have in life "received their consolation?" And if he does not believe this (as we must charitably hope), did he feel no remorse in thundering forth an isolated text of which this is the most obvious signification, and to which this signification was sure to be attached in the minds of those who heard him?

But what is the plain English of the former portion of the passage we have cited? What are the legitimate deductions from it when translated into ordinary language? Why, that God's curse is upon every system under which men live on wages honestly and nobly earned—under which the mass of the people are not proprietors of the soil—under which land is made answerable for the debts of its possessor; upon every system, in fact, under which men prefer to obtain a living by any branch of remunerative industry rather than by the tillage of their own freehold patch of land; upon every system, in fact, except that which has made French agriculture the most backward in Europe, and the French peasant the most destitute, discontented, and unimproving. Mr Kingsley cannot gainsay that this is the obvious meaning of his rash and reckless words: if the mass of the people ought to possess the soil, a ruinous subdivision, like that of France, must be the inevitable consequence: if the people are honestly to pay their debts, they must often part with their plot of land to do so: if living on wages incurs God's enmity, artists, artisans, physicians, lawyers—all who have income but not property—all who belong to schedule D, but not to schedule A—are in a state of reprobation. Mr Kingsley is a Socialist and an advocate of Peasant Proprietorship—a system the wisdom of which, to say the least, is questioned by many of the best informed and deepest thinkers, and from which the most disastrous and unforeseen consequences have been found to result. He is perfectly entitled to his opinion; but when he calls in "The Lord of all the Earth" as a witness on his side, and pronounces, *ex cathedra*, that He also is an advocate of Peasant Proprietorship, we start back appalled at a degree of irreverence of which, we verily believe, no one save a clergyman could have been guilty.

"The plain and simple meaning of the baptismal sign (says 'our author') testifies of the right of each, because the will of God for each, that they should be pure. And what better witness do you want, my working friends, against that vile neglect which allows tens of thousands in our great cities to grow up hogs in body, soul, and spirit? If we really believed the meaning of that baptismal sign, we should need few further arguments in favour of sanitary reform, for every savage in St Giles's would feel that he had a right to say, 'God's will is that my child should be washed pure within and without; how dare you interfere with God's work?' How dare you for the sake of your own private creed or party chicaneries, refuse to allow his body such purity as God has not denied even to the wild beast in his native forest? How dare you, in the face of that baptismal sign of the sprinkled water, keep God's children exposed to filth, brutality, and temptation, which festers in your courts and alleys, making cleanliness impossible—drunkenness all but excusable—prostitution all but natural—self-respect and decency unknown? Again, my working friends, I speak the truth of God." (p. 17.)

Mr Kingsley, by the expression which we have twice italicised, has cut himself from the defence which might else have been urged for such inflammatory language, that it was addressed to the consciences of the offenders, not to the feelings of the sufferers. The whole sermon is an harangue addressed to the poor on the sins, short-comings, and oppressions of the rich. The indictment brought against them in the above citation appears to contain three counts:—that the rich have actively interfered to prevent cleanliness in the courts and alleys of London; that they are bound to supply the poor with water and sewerage; and that they are making no efforts to do so, but ignore the whole affair. Unfortunately there is just sufficient truth in these charges to render the unwarrantable exaggeration doubly mischievous. In those cases in which the Legislature or any of the upper classes have, in the course of their "improvements," pulled down the houses of the poor without providing for them other dwellings within reach of their work, and have thus crowded them into unwholesome density, they have done much harm and incurred the guilt of great neglect. But we must protest against the assumption which pervades the whole passage—and, indeed, which runs through and vitiates so large a portion of Mr Kingsley's writings—viz., that it is the duty of the rich to provide for the wants of the poor; that the poor are to multiply

till they can find no work in their native districts; that they are then to crowd into large towns where there is no room for them, and no provision made for their uninvited numbers; and that then it is incumbent on the rich to step in and remedy the inconveniences arising from the improvidence of the poor, and to be abused as wilful and cruel oppressors if they are slow or feeble to do so. It should not be forgotten, that if the upper classes are to do all this, they must be endowed with a power of direction and control which the poor would vehemently resent, and which would interfere with that individual liberty of action which Englishmen are accustomed to value as their most valuable inheritance. Still more earnestly must we protest against the systematic ignoring of all the strenuous and disinterested efforts that are now being made for the removal of these very evils against which Mr Kingsley so eloquently inveighs, and of the very serious difficulties which those efforts meet with from other causes than either languid zeal or selfish greed. Reading this sermon, we should conclude that sanitary reform was a thing unheard of—that the rich and great wilfully shut their eyes against the filth and unwholesomeness around, and had just passed a law enacting that it shall never be removed. No one would learn from Mr Kingsley—no poor man would have his irritated feelings soothed, and his expiring hopes aroused, by hearing—that the subject occupies just now more of public attention than any other (except one that clergymen seem to have got up as a diversion), and that the most earnest attention both of individuals and of the Legislature is even now directed to the purification and improvement of the dwellings of the crowded poor. All this knowledge which might pacify and cheer his hearers—"his working friends"—the Preacher passes over in a silence which we forbear to characterise with its fitting adjective:—every graphic description of misery, every charge of scandalous and criminal neglect, which could excite and madden, he pours forth with a zest and vigour which it is impossible to misconceive.

We lay down the sermon with sincere pain. We believe Mr Kingsley to be an excellent man and a devoted Christian. But we wish he had studied more under the divine Master, and less under the fallible disciple. And we cannot help surmising that the mantle which has fallen upon his shoulders in the process of Apostolical succession, must have descended to him from that Apostle who proposed to call down fire from heaven to consume an offending village, and was rebuked by his meeker and more magnanimous Master for the fierce suggestion. We have no doubt that we might learn much from Mr Kingsley's teaching, and should be thankful if we could approach him in our practice; and it is, therefore, with respect that we have found ourselves compelled to speak so severely of his discourse; but, till we read it, we had no idea that so much error could have been extracted out of a single text, or so much mischief have been concentrated into a single sermon.

Agriculture.

THE COMING HARVEST.

THE character of the weather during the last three weeks has been such as to occasion some uneasiness to farmers. To say that any extensive mischief has been done to the wheat crops would probably be too strong an expression of the facts, but the bulky crops have been so much beaten down that it is certain they have been more or less injured, while the extent of such injury must, at present, be very uncertain. This is mainly applicable to the South of England, for in the North and in Scotland the rain seems to have been no more than was wanted for the growing crops, wheat included. And in the South, where the wheat has not been laid by the wet weather, the effect upon that crop will probably prove beneficial. Mischief has in some districts been occasioned by the unusually cold nights we had during the earlier part of the month, when frosts of some severity occurred; the fen districts of Lincolnshire and Cambridgeshire are said to have suffered from these frosts, which happened just when their wheat was in bloom. We have also heard complaints of injury from a yellow maggot very similar to those of our Northamptonshire correspondent, to which we referred a fortnight ago. That the harvest must be a late one is now certain, and that circumstance always leads to apprehension, especially as the weather still bears a very unsettled aspect. Spring corn has however wonderfully improved, and both oats and barley on well-conditioned land now promise to be fair crops. Turnips too will prove to be very abundant, and this with the full growth of after-grass which has been produced by the rain is telling upon the prices of store stock, especially of sheep. All accounts of fairs represent the demand for sheep as very brisk, and the prices obtained for them are such as cannot be otherwise than remunerative to the breeders. Cattle also, where of a good kind, sell for better prices. There is, however, a great difference made between good and inferior animals, the latter being in some instances scarcely saleable, while the former are sold without difficulty and for fair prices. Wool is still selling well, and in many of the local markets the sellers are represented as holding back for an advance of price. It is clear that the prospects of the breeding stock farmer are favourable, and that attention to this branch of husbandry ought not to flag. The prices of fat stock are much lower in proportion than those of store stock, and we have recently met with many high farmers who begin to doubt whether they may not by means of artificial manures grow some of their crops more cheaply than by feeding so many beasts as they have hitherto done. We have always recommended

farmers to combine a breeding and feeding stock, as being more calculated year by year to give them good returns from their stock, than the system of buying and feeding off at particular seasons large numbers of costly bullocks. The manure made by a breeding stock, if well kept and housed during the winter and spring, will be scarcely inferior to that made by feeding beasts.

The plan of feeding bullocks as mere manure-making machines, on which the farmer calculates to make a certain amount of loss, taking the cost of his store stock and the artificial food given together, has we think done its utmost for English husbandry, and that farmers must henceforth endeavour so to keep stock as to furnish the required quantities of manure, at the same time that the animals themselves become a source of profit. This may always be accomplished by a well-managed breeding stock, which, when once established, will be a constant source of revenue to the farmer. But such a plan will not answer with inferior stock. The chief obstacles to its adoption are the general want of building accommodation, and the additional outlay and attention required to establish and manage a breeding stock.

Farmers find that, like other traders, they cannot follow one uniform system, and that so great is the amount of capital and skill employed and ready to be employed in agriculture, that if any plan be found very beneficial, it will soon be adopted by so many competitors as to reduce the money returns to a low point. Thus the extension of the system of feeding bullocks has been a great cause of reducing the price of beef so low and advancing the price of store beasts fit for tying up so much, that in most cases the grazier gets no profit except indirectly through the manure made. And the same thing is observable this season in a comparatively new branch of stock-keeping, that of fat lambs. Great prices have for several years been realised by farmers who have brought good fat lambs early to market, but this year such large numbers of fat lambs have been offered, that the prices have been much reduced, and though there has probably been still a good return, there are plain indications that the feeding fat lambs is likely, ere long, to be overdone.

We know that farmers are alive to such things, and that they are now fully aware that it is only by looking ahead, and adapting their produce both in kind and quantity to the demands of the market, they can attain any eminent success. Nothing is more striking than the universal opinion now entertained amongst them that every effort must be made to produce large quantities, both of grain and meat, and to this their efforts are chiefly directed. This is a result always predicted by the Corn Law Repealers, who said the constant hankering after high prices on the part of the farmers was one of the main obstacles to agricultural improvement in this country.

What is now going on in the rural districts clearly proves the accuracy of that view, for under the influence of moderate prices farmers have for the most part diverted their attention from the prices at which they shall sell their wheat to the quantities of wheat they shall have to sell. This is a most wholesome change, for in the one case they cannot control the event, but in the other the event is in their own hands.

AGRICULTURAL RELIEF.

THE daily papers record a meeting of farmers at Ipswich of some significance, and which indicates a desire on their part to become as they ought to be a class of greater political and social influence than they have hitherto been. Some six or seven hundred persons were present, of whom many were tenant-farmers. From the report read by the Secretary, it appears that at a meeting of farmers at Stowmarket, a society called the "Suffolk Agricultural Relief Association" was formed, which, though it has been in existence scarcely a month, has received large accessions of members, and bids fair to become an influential organisation. The defined objects of this Association are, "1st, the repeal of the malt tax; 2nd, the alteration of the present unjust tithing system; 3rd, an equitable measure of tenant-right; 4th, a thorough revision of the mode of managing the county expenditure; 5th, the abolition of the game laws; 6th, the removal of the restrictions on the growth of exciseable articles." And, according to the statements of Mr S. B. Johnson, a principal speaker, the Association is to be non-political, for after advertising to the utter impossibility of reverting to the Protectionist system, he said: "Free Trade had gained such a footing as could not be removed, and let them do all in their power to grow corn at free-trade prices. What the farmer said to the manufacturer and artisan was—If you will join us in attempting to remove the burdens under which we labour, we will assist you. We don't ask you whether you are Protectionists or Free Traders, Whigs, Tories, or Radicals; we have nothing to do with that. We ask you whether you like the malt tax? If you don't like that and the other burdens of which we complain, we ask you to endeavour to assist us in removing them." Now, without offering any opinion as to whether the defined objects of the Association are the most obvious and practical topics for rural agitation, it is impossible to avoid seeing that such an agitation cannot be actively followed out without giving the farmers as a class far more weight than they have hitherto had, or without leading them to the close consideration of all the complex causes which keep them dependent and retard the progress of English agriculture. The questions of tenant-right and the repeal of the game laws will open up the whole subject of farming contracts and tenancies, while the discussion of county rate expenditure will lead to a consideration of local taxation and expenditure, which can scarcely fail to produce useful results. But above all the habit of discussing their class grievances will be most useful to the farmers. Hitherto they have never acted in combination, or at all events, they have only so acted, by following some noisy Protectionist politician under the influence of fear of Free Trade, pretty much as a flock of sheep when frightened will follow the foremost bell-wether. What farmers require is an intelligent business-

like organisation to promote their own objects, either social, political, or economical, and if such societies as that of Suffolk be judiciously conducted, they seem likely to effect the requisite habit of combination. Take, for instance, leases, tenant-right agreements, and reservations of game, and suppose that all the farmers of a parish, an estate, or a district, should combine to insist upon obtaining from their landlords such concessions on these points as are just and reasonable, does any one imagine that they could fail of success? And so of innumerable other matters in which farmers as a class are deeply interested, but which press with different degrees of severity on different farmers. Individuals find it very difficult to obtain redress, but by means of combined action amongst the body, or any considerable section of the body, redress would be readily obtained. Landowners could never farm their own estates, and it is only by means of the competition, often ill-advised and absurd, between farmers themselves, that the landowners have been enabled to impose the onerous terms and precarious tenures which the farmers of England confessedly are subject to and resent.

SPIRIT OF THE TRADE CIRCULARS.

(From Messrs McNair Greenhow, and Irving's Circular).

Manchester, July 31, 1851

Altogether, the outward appearances of this market would appear to be assuming gradually a character so materially different to its actual and practical condition, that, however honest and well intentioned the issuer of any trade report may be, his statements of actual details must assume a questionable character in the opinion of some at a distance, who are unacquainted with the locality in which we live, and its real workings, influences, and tendencies.

In the face of the characteristics to which we have alluded, an abiding sense of duty and of conviction obliges us to report the existence of a large amount of business having been transacted during the present and closing month, notwithstanding the external features, which have been of a very dull, declining, inanimate, and cheerless form.

During the early and greater portion of the month, continuous and increasing dulness prevailed, accompanied, as previous contracts expired, with a gradual decline in the prices of both cloth and yarns, and more particularly so as regarded those of each adapted for India and China; which resulted not only in an increase of supply, but in a resolute determination on the part of spinners and manufacturers to accept yielding and market terms for their respective productions. Had cotton remained firm, matters would have been different.

The low prices prevailing ten days ago for India cloths and yarns, induced very considerable purchases, which have had the effect of not only removing any accumulation of stock generally, but of placing many manufacturers and spinners again under contract. As you will have perceived, the decline in prices has reference materially to India yarns and cloths; every thing else having undergone but little change, and having sustained their values with remarkable firmness, considering the decline upon cotton.

Prices of India yarn and goods particularly, continue, as they have been throughout the month, very irregular and conflicting. According to the position of each producer, so are they determinable; one may be found asking 4d per lb more for his yarns, and 3d to 6d per piece for his cloths than his neighbour; in a word, the only means of arriving at the value of any particular article, is through the medium of an absolute offer. Stocks are again generally light; indeed, neither as regards cloth or yarns, can any great quantity be met with. So far, however, as the present feeling is concerned, spinners and manufacturers are comparatively again unwilling sellers, unless at rates which satisfy them. Their position, generally, is now much more favourable; a larger margin being now perceptible between the cost of the raw material, and that of the manufactured article, than at any period, we think, since the lowest point in 1848.

As regards the demand for the country trade, no material improvement can be noticed. Should the growing crops be favourably matured, a decided change may ensue; and of it, that is all that can be stated.

The demand for North America, Canada, and the other colonies, has been to a fair extent, generally; but, so far as domestics are concerned, the much cheaper productions of the United States have caused purchase in some description of them to be unimportant. Some samples produced at Lowell, which have been submitted to us for inspection and comparison, have induced several purchases on the other side of the Atlantic. How such goods can there be produced to sell at the prices given, with a profit, is beyond our comprehension. So far, therefore, as heavy calicoes are concerned, the United States are in the ascendant. That, however, profitably viewed, cannot long continue.

(From Messrs Robinson and Co.'s Circular).

Liverpool, August 1, 1851.

Since the issue of our last monthly report, the wool market has exhibited great firmness, and although the business is limited, occasioned by the lightness of stocks and reduced imports, it is gratifying to observe that there is no diminution in the demand for most descriptions. In the manufacturing towns there appears to be no want of orders; but the low rates at which they are given out, leaves such a small margin for the consumer, that complaints have been general: as far as our judgment extends, there seems to be some probability of this being shortly rectified from the absolute scarcity of the raw material; for unless the supply of low combing wools is considerably increased, the want of stock will cause, of necessity, an advance. During the month, no public sales have been held here, and the business by private treaty is confined to the following classes, viz., Oporto, Peruvian, Mogadore, East India, Egyptian &c. The whole of the long Oporto is cleared off (about 2,000 bag), and all coarse long wools, such as Egyptian, Russian fleece, Oporto, Iceland, &c., are in great and increasing demand. The arrivals from Peru have been entirely Alpacas, the whole of which was sold before it reached here. East India is in request, and none offering; this remark is applicable to any clean low wool. As far as can be ascertained, the quantity in manufacturers' hands is small;—taking a view of imports through the kingdom and stocks on hand, it can, with fairness, be affirmed that there is a considerable deficit, which will not be easily made up. The public sales in London, which have been in progress some time, and will not terminate before the 16th instant, have drawn a large attendance of the trade and prices have been satisfactory, being fully equal to their previous sales; the great proportion of what is offering there is Australian; what few low wools offered there sold at high prices. Scotch—Laid Cheviot still moves slowly; white Highland is much wanted, but none forward yet of the new clip; laid Highland of good quality and light, is very saleable, also good laid Galloway; laid Cross is not eagerly sought after; white Cheviot gets cleared as it arrives; the business of the month is a good one. English and Irish—More has been doing in English fleeces, at rather easier rates; the yarn markets continue very depressed. Irish fleeces are very unsaleable, excepting at a great reduction. Very little doing in combing skins.

Foreign Correspondence.

From our Paris Correspondent.

Paris, July 30, 1851.

As soon as the Assembly had given their vote upon the revision of the constitution, the representatives grew very impatient to return to their departments, and the Montagnards themselves who pretended to continue the Parliamentary labours throughout the year would have been secretly sorry if they had been obliged to remain in Paris. A very strong majority decided in favour of a prorogation from August 10 to November 4. It remains now to be seen in what manner the Assembly will appoint the Committee of Permanence, which must remain during their absence. You remember that the Committee of last year was quite hostile to the President of the Republic, and surveyed all his steps with the utmost suspicion. The Elysee has been intriguing among the representatives, in order to prevent the same members from being appointed again, and it is reported that they had succeeded in making a coalition with the Legitimists, in order to exclude from it both the Democrats and the Orleansists. Louis Bonaparte would be much vexed if General Changarnier should be appointed, and active negotiations have been going on between his principal friends and the chiefs of the Legitimists.

It seems that it has not been difficult to obtain a treaty with the Legitimists against the Orleansists. I told you in one of my preceding letters, that M. Berryer, M. Benoist d'Azy, and M. Saint Priest had returned much disappointed from London, where they had made a proposal to the Princes of Orleans to obtain their agreement to the fusion of the two branches of Orleans. As those Princes persist in standing aloof, and wait patiently for a return of the public opinion of France in their favour, the Legitimists apprehend the ultimate success of the Orleansist family, and they prefer a renewal of the Presidential power of Louis Napoleon to the triumph of the royal dynasty.

It is accordingly announced that all the projects of fusion are entirely at an end. But what has produced a certain sensation in the political circles, is the report that M. Guizot is abandoning the cause of the Orleansists and going over to Louis Napoleon. M. Duchatel and M. de Salvandy, on the contrary, remain steady with the Princes of Orleans.

The Assembly have many urgent bills to discuss before the prorogation; it is probable, however, that many of them will be adjourned. They will vote the budget of ways and means, but the budget of expenditure will not be examined before the recess. The reports on these two budgets were laid but a few days ago on the table of the Assembly. The reflections which are made by the two reporters, M. Passy and M. Guin, are very far from confirming M. Fould's calculations, when the Minister of Finance presented the budget.

The expenditure of the budget of 1852 amounts, for the ordinary and extraordinary budgets, to the sum of 1,452,598,696; and on deducting the reductions proposed by M. Passy for a sum of 13,131,846f, to 1,439,466,850f.

The resources of the budget of ways and means amount on the other side to 1,291,911,840f, so that the balance of the budget seems to be a deficiency of 149,555,010f. But the following sums must be added to the receipts:—

For the payments of the sinking fund, its dotation, and the half-yearly interests of its rentes	79,612,966
For the yearly paying up of the Northern and Western Railway Companies	8,000,000
	87,612,966

If we add this sum to the budget of ways and means, we obtain a total figure of 1,379,554,806f, which, compared with the expenditure of 1,439,466,850f, leaves a deficiency of 59,823,844f. The extraordinary expenditure amounts in the budget to 147,555,010f, and the ordinary expenses to 1,291,911,840f.

M. Fould would have balanced the budget by an overplus on giving to a private company the grant of the Paris and Lyons Railway Company; but as the committee to whom that affair was referred, has successively repelled all the combinations of the different companies, and desire that the State should provisionally continue the works of that railway, it would be requisite, on one side, to raise a loan of 53 millions, in order to continue the public works, and on the other side to create new titles of rentes for a capital of 50 millions, in order to continue the works of the Lyons railway.

As to the Lyons and Avignon Railway, which the committee had previously proposed to execute at the expense of the State, the committee have now determined that the proposition of M. Valabois should be granted, and the line would be granted to that company for a term of 99 years.

M. Passy has made a long inquiry about the floating debt and the deficiency of the preceding budget, which are about to be still increased. If we believe M. Passy, the floating debt will amount to 570,539,187f at the end of 1851; and it might be raised to a still higher figure if a loan were not issued to consolidate a part of the floating debt.

Great preparations are making at our Hotel de Ville, in order to welcome the Royal Committee of the Universal Exhibition, and the numerous English and foreign guests who have been invited for the festivals. 4,000 invitations have been sent for the concert, and 8,000 for the ball.

HALF PAST FOUR.—Our speculators are preparing their account for to-morrow; and the option of the buyers of premiums at first produced a heavy market, but the prices were afterwards rallying, on the information that the Committee of Permanence will be probably composed of moderate members. The Three per Cents. varied from 57f to 57f 20c; the Five per Cents., from 95f 05c to 95f 55c; the Bank Shares, from 2,170f to 2,177f 50c; Northern Shares, from 467f

50c to 463f 5c; Nantes, from 272f 50c to 273f 75c; Strasburg, from 362f 60c to 363f 75c; Orleans was at 865f; Rouen, at 637f 50c; Havre, at 265f; Marseilles, at 220f; Bordeaux, at 395f.

The following are the variations of our securities from July 24 to July 30:—

	f c	f c	f c
The Three per Cents. improved from	57 10	to 57 50	and left off at 57 10
The Five per Cents.	55 25	95 95	— 95 30
Bank Shares	2170 0	2190 0	— 2170 0
Northern	468 75	470 0	— 467 50
Strasburg	361 25	362 50	— 361 25
Nantes	272 50	273 75	— 272 50
Orleans	857 60	862 50	— 857 50
Rouen	643 75	645 0	— 643 0
Marseilles	211 25	227 50	— 215 0
Central	440 0	441 25	— 440 0
Bordeaux	395 0	396 25	— 393 75

Correspondence.

CROSSED CHEQUES.

To the Editor of the Economist.

SIR,—Respecting this "vexed question" of crossed cheques, surely "custom" cannot be satisfactorily maintained, if contrary to direct instructions. The drawer instructs bearer to be paid. What can be more definite? Further, any addition or alteration to such a document as a cheque after its signature, does it not *in toto* vitiate it, and is not the "crossing" invariably done after signing; and to establish it (the crossing) should it not bear the initials of the drawer? Again, "Cutts" might plead the custom of cheques being "crossed" by the receiver, if repaid, re-remitted by him for his security in transmission by post; and if the banker should regard the "crossing" of the drawer, is he equally bound to all "crossings," and if he know it be not the custom of the drawer so to protect his cheques?

To obviate the difficulty, I would suggest a slight variation in the form of the cheque, thus:—"Pay _____, or bearer, ψ B—" (per Bank, Bankers, or Banking Company), the " ψ B" inserted if desired to protect the cheque, and omitted if not. This " ψ B" the banker might decipher, if added by the drawer, and which I defy to him to do in nine-tenths of the hieroglyphical crossings that at present come under his notice.

This variation would also remove the difficulty lately started by "Young John."—I am, yours obediently,

Manchester, July 24, 1851.

THOMAS PORTER.

Imperial Parliament.

PRINCIPAL BUSINESS OF THE WEEK.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—*Friday*: Unlawful Oaths (Ireland) Bill, Turnpike Roads (Ireland) Bill, Private Lunatic Asylums (Ireland) Bill, and the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill, severally passed committee. *Monday*: Smithfield Market Removal Bill in committee. *Tuesday*: Ecclesiastical Titles Bill passed—Charitable Trusts Bill and Leasehold Tenure of Land Bill passed committee. *Thursday*: Stock in Trade Bill, and the Charitable Trusts Bill passed—The Court of Chancery and Judicial Committee Bill read a second time.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—*Friday*: The Coalwhippers (Port of London) Bill, Land Clauses Consolidation (Ireland) Bill, and the Steam Navigation Bill, severally passed committee—Patent Law Amendment Bill read a second time—The Emigration Advances (Scotland) Bill, Metropolitan Interment (Advances), the Poor Relief Act Continuance Bill, the Sheep, &c., Contagious Diseases Prevention Bill, the Commissioners of Railways Act Repeal Bill, and the Representative Peers for Scotland Bill, in committee—The Administration of Criminal Justice Improvement Bill passed. *Saturday*: Consolidated Fund Bill passed. *Monday*: Medical Charities (Ireland) Bill passed committee—Motions that the Greenwich and London electors be heard by counsel at the bar of the House negatived—Resolution that Alderman Salomons cannot sit until he has taken the oath in the prescribed form carried. *Tuesday*: Medical Charities (Ireland) Bill passed—Resolution against the Duty on Hops negatived—Address for the Preservation of the Crystal Palace carried. *Wednesday*: The Coalwhippers (Port of London) Bill and the Steam Navigation Bill passed—The Patent Law Amendment Bill, the Church Building Acts Amendment Bill, the Petty Sessions (Ireland) Bill, and New Zealand Settlements Bill, in committee. *Thursday*: The Metropolitan Sewers Bill passed—The Metropolitan Interment Bill went through committee—The Episcopal and Capital Estate Management (No. 2) Bill, read a second time—The Petty Sessions (Ireland) Bill, the Summary Jurisdiction (Ireland) Bill, and the Constabulary Force (Ireland) Bill, in committee.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Friday, July 25.

[CONTINUED FROM OUR LAST.]

Lord Monteaule having put certain preliminary questions to the Lord Chancellor, proceeded to move that Ireland be exempted from the jurisdiction of the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill. Whatever might be the state of the case as regarded England, he could see no reason for this measure of penal legislation against his Roman Catholic countrymen in Ireland, whose Church was neither legally nor historically the same as that established by law in England, and whose bishops had been fully recognised by successive viceroys and governments. The effect of the bill would be to place the whole of Ireland under a political interdiction. Her Majesty had been graciously pleased to say that she would preserve unimpaired the religious liberty of her subjects, but notwithstanding that declaration her ministers had brought in a bill which would strike a fatal blow at the Roman Catholic clergy of Ireland. Upon these grounds he hoped their lordships would agree to the motion.

The Lord Chancellor having replied to Lord Monteaule's question, denied that the bill would interfere with any spiritual functions formerly exercised by Roman Catholic bishops. It was directed solely against documents issued by the Pope appointing archbishops and bishops and creating new sees. He defied any man to be a warmer friend of religious liberty than himself, and he trusted that the house would not be carried away by that cant phrase, but that they would take care that the Roman Catholics so advanced their religion as not to suppose that of their lordships.

Lord Camoys supported the motion of Lord Monteaule, though he admitted that the Papal rescript was a violation of the law of Europe.

Lord Canning, though opposed to the passing of the bill altogether, could not be a party to a motion which tended to draw a distinction between the value of the Queen's supremacy in different portions of her dominions. If he could believe that the Government had an earnest intention of making the bill stringent in its operations in Ireland, he confessed he would be strongly inclined to support the instruction to the committee for excluding Ireland from the bill; but in spite of what had fallen from the noble and learned lord on the woolsack, he conceived that the measure would not be enforced with severity in that country, and under that impression he should oppose the instruction.

Lord Cranworth could not see that the bill would interfere with the spiritual functions of Roman Catholic bishops, which were derived, not from the Pope, but from their ordination. Under all the circumstances he saw no reason why Ireland should be excluded from the bill.

After some observations from the Bishop of Ossory, who maintained that the Established Church in Ireland was the only true successor and representative of the ancient Church,

Earl St Germans, in a speech of considerable length, contended that the measure was pregnant with the most fatal consequences to Ireland, in which country the Roman Catholic Church, whether the successor of the ancient Church or not, was undoubtedly the Church of the great majority. He did not shut his eyes to the evils with which the proposed instruction might be accompanied, but seeing far stronger evils on the other side, he had come to the conclusion that it was his painful duty to give it his support.

The Duke of Argyll thought that the bill could not affect the purely spiritual acts of the Irish Roman Catholic priests. In his opinion the validity of the orders of the Church of Rome, as recognised by their own law and their own church, did not depend upon any document from Rome, but upon the canonical consecration of their bishops. Having come to that conviction, he held not only that the bill might apply to Ireland, but that it was specially required in Ireland, because it was necessary to resist the encroachments of the Romish priesthood and to prevent them from gradually establishing principles dangerous to the institutions of our own political system.

After an explanation from Lord Clanricarde and some observations from Lord Wicklow,

The house divided, when the numbers were—For the instruction, 17; against it, 82; majority against the instruction, 65.

After some discussion between the Marquis of Lansdowne and Lord Aberdeen, as to the expediency of expunging the words "or otherwise" from the preamble,

The house then went into committee on the bill, when Lord Kinnaird moved the omission of the first clause.

The Earl of Ellenborough, referring to the Charitable Bequests Act, expressed strong doubts whether the present measure and the Bequests Act could co-exist.

The Lord Chancellor did not see any difficulty whatever, and was quite of opinion that no legal interpretation could be put upon either that would impair the force of the other.

After a short discussion the committee divided, when the numbers were for the clause, 77; against it, 26; majority, 51.

On clause 2 the Duke of Argyll referred briefly to certain amendments which he had placed on the table of the house, and said that the addition to the clause which enabled a common informer to prosecute was on many accounts objectionable, and he therefore had proposed to expunge it.

The Lord Chancellor defended the clause in its present form, for though there were some objections to the addition introduced in the other house, still its practical operation would be of a very trifling effect.

The Earl of Ellenborough was also of opinion that that portion of the clause ought never to have become part of the bill.

The Earl of Ellesmere was unfavourable to the clause in its present form.

The Duke of Newcastle complained that the Government, backed by a majority in that house, were determined not to let the bill be returned to the Commons, even though they strongly disapproved of the power given to the common informer.

Earl Grey contended that the words objected to would have very little practical effect, and the public interest required that they should not by making any alteration in the measure incur the risk inseparable from sending it back to the House of Commons.

The Earl of Malmesbury supported the bill.

The committee then divided, when the numbers were—For the clause, 61; against it, 26.

The remaining clauses were then agreed to, the house resumed, and immediately afterwards adjourned at a quarter to 1 o'clock.

Monday, July 28.

The report of the committee on the Smithfield Market Removal Bill was brought up.

Earl Granville offered some strictures upon the clause introduced into the bill in the Commons, by which compensation was granted to the City of London Corporation for the loss of privileges consequent upon the abolition of the market of Smithfield, and moved an amendment by which the compensating clause was expunged from the measure.

After some discussion, their lordships divided upon this amendment—Contents, 59; non-contents, 15; majority, 44.

The clause is consequently struck out.

Some bills on the table were advanced a stage respectively, and the house adjourned at ten minutes past 8.

Tuesday, July 29.

The Marquis of Lansdowne moved that the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill be read a third time.

The Earl of Aberdeen could not refrain from availing himself of this opportunity to protest against the passing of this ill-omened measure, which he was convinced would prove most injurious to the public interests. It would be for others who would come after to determine whether that protest were consistent with the principles of good faith and justice, and whether the apprehensions which he entertained of its results were only vague and unmanly fears.

The Bishop of Oxford, in a long and eloquent speech, explained the reasons which induced him to support the measure. The Bishops especially, to whom the spiritual education of the poor was intrusted, were bound to protest against the aggression of the Bishop of Rome—first, because it was a systematic intrusion of a rival Church into the ground already occupied by the Protestant Church of England established by law; and, secondly, because it was an introduction of false and fallacious doctrine into the country. After entering at considerable length into the subject, the right reverend prelate concluded by warning the house that the bill when passed must not become a dead letter, but that it must be rigorously enforced against that indefatigable enemy whose energies for centuries past had been so unremittingly aimed at the destruction of the English Church.

Lord Stuart de Decies regretted that he felt himself compelled to vote against the bill.

The Duke of Argyll denied that the value of the bill consisted in the extent to which it was to be enforced. They had now established that great principle of the law, and the Roman Catholics would not be able to found an argument upon their silence.

The Earls of Glengall and Fortescue supported the measure, while Lord Nelson and the Marquis of Sligo protested against it.

Lord Redesdale regretted the absence of Lord Derby, whose proposition for an inquiry into the whole matter as to the best means of meeting this aggression seemed to be the safest and most prudent course of proceeding.

Lord Gage said that the increase of convents and monasteries was the real Papal aggression, and he should be glad to see the Government abandon this bill, which would lead to nothing, and boldly meet the actual danger to which he had adverted.

Earl Grey, in reply to some remarks of the Bishop of Oxford, explained the position of the Roman Catholic colonial bishops; and in answer to the Duke of Newcastle, declared that he was still a firm supporter of religious liberty, though at the same time he thought the power and authority of the Crown ought to be maintained against the receipt of any foreign power.

The bill was then read a third time.

A discussion arose on an amendment proposed by Lord Montegle, which was subsequently withdrawn, after some explanations from the Marquis of Lansdowne. The bill then passed.

The house afterwards went into committee on the Charitable Trusts Bill, when the Duke of Cleveland moved as an amendment that the three Royal London hospitals be exempted from the operation of the measure.

The Lord Chancellor stated that the bill would not interfere with the internal management of those institutions; and he opposed the amendment, which was negatived, and the bill was reported.

The Leasehold Tenure of Land Bill went through a committee, after which their lordships adjourned.

Thursday, July 31.

The Stock in Trade Bill was read a third time and passed.

The Charitable Trusts Bill was also read a third time and passed, after some complaints from the Earl of Malmesbury as to the late period of the session at which the measure had been introduced.

The Court of Chancery and Judicial Committee Bill was read a second time on the motion of the Lord Chancellor.

A discussion then took place as to the continuance of metropolitan interments, in which the Board of Health was defended by the Earl of Shaftesbury and the Earl of Carlisle.

A return of the reports of inspectors of collieries during the last year was ordered to be laid before the house on the motion of Lord Wharncliffe.

The orders of the day were then disposed of, and their lordships adjourned.

Friday, August 1.

Various bills were advanced a stage without discussion, after which

Earl Talbot moved for a copy of the Order in Council recently issued for the regulation of promotions in the navy.

Earl Grey could have no objections to grant the motion for the production of the orders in Council.

[LEFT SPEAKING]

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Friday, July 25.

[CONTINUED FROM OUR LAST.]

Mr Reynolds moved that the house at its rising do a Journ till Monday, for the purpose of delivering a speech full of invective against the Government, denouncing the procrastination of Irish business, the neglect of the interests of Ireland, the mal-administration of the Poor Law in that country, and what he termed the wholesale slaughter of the people in workhouses.

He was followed in a similar strain, though with more brevity, by Sir H. Barron, who spoke of the increasing misery and distress of the Irish people, over whom ruin of the most fearful description, he said, impended; and of the contumely with which Irish members were treated in that house.

Lord J. Russell opposed the motion, simply, he said, because it would interfere with Irish business fixed for the ensuing day.

The discussion continued, until

The Chancellor of the Exchequer reminded the house that an hour and a half had already been expended, which might have been devoted to Irish business.

In reply to a question put by Sir J. Fakington,

Mr Mowatt gave an explanation respecting a charge he had been supposed to make, in a former debate, against the Bishop of Rochester, when Dean of Worcester.

Mr Reynolds withdrew his motion.

The Attorney-General, in moving the second reading of the Patent Law Amendment Bill, observed that this subject had been canvassed in a committee of the other house, and the result [was this bill, which had passed the Lords. He did not, he said, concur in the opinion which some entertained, that patents might be altogether dispensed with. Although a disinterested wish to benefit mankind might induce some to divulge their inventions, such a motive was far less efficacious than the hope of gain. The principle of this bill, therefore, was to secure a limited monopoly to the discoverers of new and useful inventions, guarding the interests of the public and those of other inventors. He then described the dilatory and expensive proceeding now necessary to secure a patent, and explained the more simple and economical mode which the bill proposed to substitute for it, as well as the machinery for the examination of inventions and the determination of questions. Provisions were made for the classification and registration of patents, and courts of law were invested with equitable jurisdiction in suits respecting patent rights.

Mr J. L. Ricardo complained that an assent to the principle of this bill was asked before time had been afforded for investigating the evidence. The present system was an abomination which ought to be done away with; but the whole principle of the patent law was bad, and in the opinion of many of the most intelligent witnesses should be abolished. The greatest inventions were unprotected by patents.

Mr Macgregor supported the second reading of the bill.

Mr Labouchere, in reply to Mr Ricardo, observed that those who advocated the total abolition of a patent law did so with reference, not to a rational, simple, and economical system, but to a complicated and expensive one. This bill accomplished the object which all must have in view; without abolishing the system of patents, it corrected the abuses so justly complained of in the existing system.

Sir D. L. Evans approved the bill.

Mr Roundell Palmer was favourable to the principle of the bill, which did not, however, go far enough to carry out the principle. He did not see why a person should not on registering a specification secure at once a protection analogous to copyright.

Mr W. Williams, Mr Muntz, Mr Alderman Sidney, the Solicitor-General and Mr Wakley spoke more or less in favour of the bill, which was read a second time.

The house then went into committees upon the Emigration Advances (Scotland) Bill, Metropolitan Interment (Advances), the Poor Relief Act Continuance Bill, the Sheep, &c., Contagious Diseases Prevention Bill, the Commissioners of Railways Act Repeal Bill, and the Representative Peers for Scotland Bill.

The Owners and Lessees of Mines (Ireland) Bill was withdrawn.

The Administration of Criminal Justice Improvement Bill was read a third time and passed.

The remaining business having been disposed of, the house adjourned at 20 minutes past one o'clock.

Saturday, July 26.

The Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) Bill was read a third time and passed.

The house went into committee upon the Improvement of Towns (Ireland) Bill, and afterwards upon the New Zealand Acts; and a bill was brought in founded upon a resolution adopted by the committee.

Other bills were advanced a stage.

Monday, July 28.

The committal of the Medical Charities (Ireland) Bill having been moved, Sir W. Somerville stated, that the advanced period of the session left no chance of passing the bill in its existing shape, so much opposition being threatened upon its very numerous clauses. He therefore proposed to pass the enactments having reference to dispensaries, and abandon all the rest of the measure.

The bill thus retrenched was then allowed to pass through committee.

Sir W. Somerville afterwards announced that the Valuation (Ireland) Bill would not be pressed during the present session.

Resuming in the evening,

The Speaker read a letter he had received from Alderman Salomons, informing him, and through him the house, that the preliminary proceedings had been commenced against him in two several actions for the penalties he had been alleged to have incurred by sitting and voting in Parliament.

Sir B. Hall, after presenting the petition from the Greenwich electors, moved that the prayer thereof might be granted, and the petitioners heard at the bar, by counsel, in defence of the right of their elected member to enjoy the privileges and perform the functions of a legislator in that house.

The Attorney-General contended that the subject had been already so fully discussed, that no new light could be thrown upon it, and the only result from the arguments of counsel would be a further wasting of time by the legislature.

Mr C. Anstey supported the motion.

Sir F. Theiger observed that the petitioners asked in terms only to defend a right which no one contested, namely, that of electing whom they pleased as their representative.

After a miscellaneous conversation,

Mr Aglionby recommended the Government to grant some delay, for the purpose of considering the perplexed question, before proceeding to settle it off hand, by passing the resolution which Lord J. Russell had announced.

Lord J. Russell denied that the electors of Greenwich had any *locus standi* in the house. Their privilege extended only as to the choice of the representative whom they would return, and was not interfered with by a resolution of the house, such as he had suggested, simply declaring the duty that devolved on them not to admit a member who had been unable to fulfil the formalities required by law.

Mr Alderman Sidney and Mr Macgregor supported the motion.

The house divided—For the motion, 75; against it, 135; majority, 60.

Mr C. Anstey moved that the prayer contained in the petition from the electors of London, whose tenor was similar, *mutatis mutandis*, to that from the Greenwich electors, should be granted, and the petitioners heard by counsel at the bar.

Mr Aglionby, in supporting the motion, submitted that as a division would be evidently useless, it was not advisable to press the resolution on a dissentient house.

Mr R. Currie, as chairman of the meeting at which the London petition was adopted, entered into a variety of particulars touching the incidents that occurred on that occasion.

Mr B. Osborne rebuked the hon. member for Northampton for his inconspicuous revelations, and the Prime Minister for his tepid advocacy of the great cause he had undertaken to promote. If the question now before them, involving, as it did, the highest considerations, were not satisfactorily settled, he foresaw the probability of a serious popular agitation, and a perilous insistance, on the part of the country, for a reform of the upper branch of the legislature.

Sir J. Tyrrell opposed the motion.

Mr Hobhouse, after observing upon the personalities that had been imported into the debate, cited precedents for the proceeding now desired by the petitioners, and insisted upon their right to be heard by counsel at the bar. He defended, with many arguments, the ultimate object that was in view, contending that religious differences ought not to operate as a barrier against the exercise of constitutional functions.

On division there appeared—For the motion, 44; against it, 77; majority, 33.

The resolution proposed by Lord J. Russell having become the question before the house,

Mr C. Anstey moved as an amendment the addition of a sentence which recognised the sincerity of the conscientious scruples that had prevented Mr Alderman Salomons from taking the oath of abjuration, and pledged the house so to alter the formula of that oath as to obviate the objections which now prevented elected members professing the Jewish religion from taking it.

Mr Headlam supported the amendment.

Mr Evans found that the law allowed all other oaths to be so adapted to the consciences of Jews, and contended that the oath of abjuration should not be made the only exception.

The house divided—For the amendment, 50; against it, 88; majority, 38.

Mr Bethell reopened the legal argument, maintaining that, if any doubts existed as to the sufficiency of the oaths as taken by Alderman Salomons, they were such as could only be properly solved in a court of law.

Lord J. Russell again stated the question that had been placed before the house. They had simply to decide upon the interpretation of an act regulating the formalities attending the admission of members to their own body. This point, he contended, they were perfectly competent to determine, and he proceeded, arguing that the determination ought to be against the admissibility of the members for Greenwich and London. If the opinion of a court of law were desired, however, it might be easily obtained; and the preliminary steps were, it seemed, already taken for the accomplishment of that object.

Mr C. Anstey, opposing the resolution which now stood before them, declared his conviction that even if it were now passed, the time was near at hand when it would be rescinded.

After some remarks by Mr A. Smith, a division was taken on the resolution of Lord J. Russell. Ayes, 123; noes, 68; majority, 55.

The orders of the day were then gone through, and the house adjourned at 25 minutes past 2.

Tuesday, July 29.

In reply to a question of Mr Osborne,

Lord Seymour gave an explanation respecting the case of Ann Hicks.

The Medical Charities (Ireland) Bill was read a third time and passed.

The house then went into committee upon the Metropolitan Sewers Bill, which occupied the remainder of the sitting.

At the evening sitting,

Mr Frewen moved a resolution, that the Excise duty on hops is impolitic and unjust, and ought to be repealed at an early period. He brought forward this motion, he said, in compliance with the urgent request of his constituents.

The amount of the duty was not large—little more than 300,000*l.*—though it pressed severely upon certain localities, and he urged the injustice of maintaining this duty, which was the only war tax which had not been repealed or reduced.

Mr T. L. Hodges moved, as an amendment to the motion, to resolve that, on any reduction of Excise duty on hops, it is expedient to reduce the Excise duty on British hops and the Customs duty on foreign hops by 1*d.* per lb, with the 5 per cent. additional duty.

The original motion was supported by Mr Fuller, Mr Barrow, and Mr Curteis.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer repeated the objections he had made on former occasions against repealing this duty. The arrangements for the present financial year had been completed, and it would be most unwise to bind the house as to those of future years.

Sir J. Tyrell entered his protest against the cavalier manner in which propositions for agricultural relief were met by the Government.

Mr Cobden observed that the injustice and impolicy of this duty were seen from the manner in which it affected the interests of the hop growers in different parts of the country. This inequality should alone condemn the tax, which the Chancellor of the Exchequer he hoped would early take into his consideration.

After a remark from Mr Bass, Mr Hodges withdrew his amendment, and Mr Frewen's motion was negatived upon a division by 59 against 30.

Mr Heywood moved an address, praying Her Majesty to direct that the Crystal Palace be preserved until the 1st of May next, with a view to determine if it can be adapted to purposes of public utility and recreation. He specified several objects to which the structure might be advantageously devoted, remarking that its locality was singularly deficient in places of public recreation. The commissioners could not move of themselves, and must take down the building unless the house interposed.

Colonel Sibthorp opposed the motion. He had denounced the work at the beginning as a most gross attack upon the rights of the people of this country. He remained of the same opinion.

Mr Labouchere dissented altogether from the estimate of the Exhibition formed by Colonel Sibthorp. It had ministered to the gratification of hundreds of thousands; its effect upon trade and the arts he believed would be not inconsiderable, but the moral spectacle which had been exhibited in the Crystal Palace by the orderly demeanour of the vast body of persons, foreigners as well as Englishmen, congregated within it, was more admirable than the edifice and its contents. With respect to the motion for a reprieve of the structure, as a commissioner and as a member of the Government he should express no opinion upon the proposition, which was a question for the house, and the house alone, to decide.

Sir R. Inglis, subscribing to the statements made by Mr Labouchere of the results of the Exhibition, still thought that the house was not at liberty to alter the arrangements. It should be looked at simply as a question of contract, which could not be got rid of, except by an act of Parliament.

Mr Ewart supported the motion. An opportunity was offered which had never presented itself before, and which should not, he thought, be neglected.

Mr McGregor likewise spoke in favour of the motion. He considered it would be rash to consent to the immediate demolition of the palace.

Colonel Thompson suggested various reasons for preserving the building.

Mr Goulburn must be governed by a principle of good faith, and he put it to every one whether the building would ever have risen if there had not been a distinct assurance given that when the object of the Exhibition had been answered the site should be restored to its original condition? If this was so, no consideration would warrant a departure from the arrangement. Independently of this objection, Mr Goulburn suggested various difficulties in the way of the conversion of the edifice to other purposes.

Mr Wakley said the contract was by the public with the public; and who, he asked, could contemplate without pain the destruction of such an institution, the temple of peace as well as science, connected with the noblest associations that could enter the mind of man? 49 out of 50 of the inhabitants of London would vote for the preservation of the Crystal Palace.

Mr Bankes, though not for the destruction of the palace, was not for its continuance in its present site, which would be a violation of public faith.

Lord Seymour said this was the reason why he must vote against the motion. The First Minister of the Crown had distinctly told the house that the building was not intended to be permanent, and the commissioners had given a solemn assurance that it should be removed.

Mr C. Villiers thought it would be an ungracious thing to refuse to keep up the building for a few months to try the experiment of a winter garden.

Mr Clay considered the difference of opinion a good reason for delay.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer cautioned the house that it was necessary to consider what might be the expense of converting this building into a winter garden. In the first place, the country must be prepared to take upon itself the payment of 70,000*l.* which might be called for. Moreover, it could not be maintained as a permanent building without a considerable outlay. The most solemn pledges having been given that the building should be taken down, more than a mere majority of that house was required to set aside this stipulation. As a member of the Government, he should express no opinion upon the motion.

Mr Headlam and Mr Geach supported the motion, which, upon a division, was carried by 75 against 47.

Mr Anstey called attention to a petition of native-born colonists of Van Diemen's Land, preparatory to moving an address to Her Majesty, praying that transportation to that colony might cease, when the house being counted, and 40 members not being present, an adjournment took place at a quarter to 11 o'clock.

Wednesday, July 30.

A question put by Lord Jocelyn, as to the intentions of the Government respecting steam communication between India and Australia, led to a conversation, in which the recommendations of the select committee were considered.

The Coalwhippers (Port of London) Bill and the Steam Navigation Bill were read a third time and passed.

On going into committee on the Patent Law Amendment Bill,

Mr Carew and Sir F. Thesiger objected to its further progress; but after a short discussion—in the course of which the Solicitor-General stated that many persons who had articles in the Exhibition were waiting with great anxiety for the passing of the bill, to take out patents under it—the bill went through committee, *pro forma*, for the purpose of receiving certain amendments.

The house then went into committee successively on the Church Building Acts Amendment Bill, the Petty Sessions (Ireland) Bill, and New Zealand Settlements Bill, which occupied the remainder of the sitting.

Thursday, July 31.

In reply to Mr Osborne, who intimated that there had been some misunderstanding upon this point,

The Chancellor of the Exchequer repeated, in fuller and more explicit terms than he had used on Tuesday, his statement respecting the Crystal Palace. Whether the Commissioners were at liberty, under the terms of the memoran-

dum, to apply any portion of the surplus in their hands to the purposes of a winter garden, he thought very doubtful; whether, if they had the power, they had the inclination, he could not say. If they were unable or unwilling, the public could only purchase the building for a sum which might probably amount to 70,000*l.* Then to put it in a fit state for permanent preservation would cost a considerable sum, and there must be an annual outlay for keeping it in repair. So much for the building. In addition to this expenditure, there must be a certain outlay for the winter garden itself, and then there was the cost of maintaining it. These five charges must fall upon the public.

The Metropolitan Sewers Bill was read a third time and passed, after a protest from Sir B. Hall and Mr Wakley.

The Metropolitan Interment Bill went through committee, not without a division upon its merits.

The house then went into committee upon the remaining clauses of the Petty Sessions (Ireland) Bill, and, after a protracted discussion upon the 10th clause, the Chairman reported progress, to sit again in the evening, the Chancellor of the Exchequer consenting to abandon that portion of the clause which gave new powers to a single magistrate.

Several bills were forwarded a stage.

At the evening sitting, on the order for the second reading of the Episcopal and Capitular Estates Management (No. 2) Bill,

Colonel Sibthorp objected to the further progress of the bill this session, and moved that the third reading be deferred for three months.

Sir B. Hall called for some explanation respecting this bill, and thought that the house should have time to consider the manner in which the interests of lessees were proposed to be dealt with.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer explained that the measure was designed simply as a permissive bill, enabling certain ecclesiastical corporations to turn their estates to better advantage, and stated that he believed its enactment would prove more conducive to the interests of the Church, the bishops, and the community.

Mr Spooner agreed that the rights of lessees ought to be fairly dealt with; but this was not a compulsory bill; it was the first step towards getting rid, with consent of all parties, of a system of management which gave to neither party the full advantage of his interest in the property.

Mr Mullings entirely concurred in the principle of the bill, but not in its details. No notice was taken of what were called dominant rights, but which he called tenant rights, which would be at the mercy of the Church Commissioners. He recommended the postponement of the bill until next session.

Mr Cardwell said, if this bill were intended to increase episcopal or capitular revenues, and tied up the hands of Parliament from reforming the management of Church property, he could understand the objections offered to it; but the bill expressly provided that all increase of Church property should be carried to the common fund, and be applicable to the benefit of the working clergy. The bill emancipated the parties from the restraints which Parliament had imposed in former times, and enabled the Church to deal with the lessees, and the lessees with the Church, if they pleased.

Mr Anstey opposed the bill, which, under certain circumstances, he considered, would be compulsory.

Mr Newdegate and Mr Frewen urged the postponement of the bill.

Mr Carter suggested cases in which the enactments of the bill might work unfairly, to the benefit of ecclesiastical corporations and to the prejudice of lessees.

Sir T. E. Colebrooke objected that the bill did not define the principle of computation.

The Solicitor-General observed that the objections went to the clauses of the bill, not to its principle, which was this—the lessees had now no power of enfranchisement from any body except the Ecclesiastical Commissioners in respect to property vested in them. By this bill they might be enfranchised; but there was nothing in it to prevent the renewal of leases, if this were desired; all the bill did was to enable the parties, lessors and lessees, if they saw fit, to put the management of the property upon a new footing.

Mr H-nley and Mr Barrow wished the bill to be postponed until next session, to afford time for considering its provisions.

Lord Palmerston suggested that those who objected to the details of the bill should allow it to be read a second time, in order that it might be committed, and go to the committee with any amendments adopted in the committee.

Upon a division the amendment was negatived by 45 against 34, and the bill was read a second time.

Certain bills were advanced a stage, and the house then went again into committee upon the Petty Sessions (Ireland) Bill, and afterwards upon the Summary Jurisdiction (Ireland) Bill, and the Constabulary Force (Ireland) Bill, the details of which were discussed at much length.

The motions upon the paper having been disposed of, the house adjourned at half-past 12 o'clock.

Friday, Aug. 1.

Mr Cowper moved that the Wanlie Water and Sewerage Company Bill, Lee River Trust Bill, New River Company Bill, and East London Waterworks Bill, having been suspended, in consequence of a resolution of this house, be allowed to proceed, during the next session of Parliament, at the stage at which the said bills shall, at the termination of the present session, be suspended.—Agreed to.

Various bills passed their final stage without opposition.

On the motion for going into committee on the Episcopal and Capitular Estates Management (No. 2) Bill,

Sir Henry Willoughby objected to going on with the bill until the house was in possession of the report and evidence upon which it was founded.

A debate then took place in which various members objected to the rapid manner in which the bill was being urged through the house. Ultimately, however, there appeared—For going into committee, 48; against it, 37; majority, 11.

Lord J. Russell, in reply to Mr Cayley, said he would consent to the bill now going into committee *pro forma*, and then to postpone the further proceeding of the bill in committee until Monday.

The bill then went *pro forma* through committee, and was fixed for Monday at five o'clock.

[LEFT SITTING].

PARLIAMENTARY PAPERS.

- 336 Poor and County Rate, &c. (Ireland)—abstract of returns.
- 476 Lead, Copper, Tin, Zinc—account.
- 480 Pauperism (Bedfordshire)—report of R. Weale, Esquire.
- 507 County Rates—return.
- 528 Land Tax (Bradley Haverstoe)—copies of letters.
- 530 Navy (Vessels purchased)—return.
- 543 Harwich Election Petition—proceedings of committee.
- 554 Rate in Aid (Ireland)—account.
- 548 Bills—New Forest Deer Removal, &c. (amended by select committee).
- 552 — Representative Peers for Scotland.
- 549 Redundant List (Public Departments)—abstract of returns.

547	Bills—County Rates and Expenditure (as amended by the select committee, and on re-commitment).
551	— Enfranchisement of Copyholds (No 3).
560	— General Board of Health (No 3).
561	— Militia Pay.
566	— Conveyance of Mails by Railways (amended). Criminal Offenders (England and Wales)—tables.
140	Public Income and Expenditure, &c.—accounts (a corrected copy).
511	Criminal Prosecutions, &c. (Scotland)—Treasury minute (a corrected copy).
557	Civil List Pensions—annual list.
562	Schools (Ireland)—abstract of return.
561	Bills—Commissioners of Railways Act Repeal.
569	— Attorneys and Solicitors Regulation Act Amendment.
455	Greenwich Hospital Schools—annual report.
595	Lunacy—returns.
527	Free Sittings in Churches—return.
553	Bills—Commons Inclosure (No 2).
559	— Soap Duties.
382	Electoral Divisions (Ireland)—return.
556	Steam Vessels—return.
525	Coalwhippers (Port of London) Bill—report from committee.
567	Bills—Sheep, &c. Contagious Disorders Prevention.
571	— Law of Evidence Amendment (amended).
576	— Steam Navigation (as amended by the select committee).
574	— Metropolitan Sewers.
579	— Emigration Advances (Distressed Districts, Scotland). Inspectors of Factories—reports. New Zealand—papers.
591	County Cess (Ireland)—abstract of return.
456	Post Office—return.
468	Lunacy—account.
529	Belfast Union, &c.—copies of communications.
561	Bill—Lunatics (India). Western Highlands and Islands—report by Sir John McNeill. New Zealand—papers (a corrected leaf).

News of the Week.

COURT AND ARISTOCRACY.

HER MAJESTY and the Royal Family continue at Osborne. Earl Granville, Sir James Clark, the Earl and Countess of Sandwich, the Countess of Wilton, Colonel and Lady Catherine Harcourt, have visited at Osborne house during the week.

On Tuesday Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent returned to her residence, Frogmore, from a visit to Her Majesty at Osborne.

Her Majesty and Royal Family are not expected at Balmoral Castle until the end of August. It is not yet determined whether the Royal party will proceed first to Dunrobin Castle or not; but the visit has been so long promised, and the preparations so extensive and long continued, that it is fully expected her Majesty will this season reach this almost "Ultima Thule" of her dominions. —*Perth Courier.*

METROPOLIS.

THE DISSOLUTION OF PARLIAMENT will take place on Friday next, August 8, when the Queen will go through the ceremony in person.

THE GREAT EXHIBITION continues to attract the usual crowds. Yesterday week the number admitted was 26,882, and the total receipts 2,990l. 6s. On Saturday there were 10,399 visitors, making the total number, since the opening, 2,621,324. The amount received was 1,478l. 6s. On Monday the police numbers were 67,170, and the total receipts 3,194l. 13s. On Tuesday the number of admissions was 68,496, and the receipts 3,257l. 16s. On Wednesday the police returns were 58,382, and the total receipts 2,835l. 6s. And on Thursday the receipts amounted to 2,835l. 6s., and the number of visitors, according to the police returns, was 58,382. We understand (says the *Times*) the price of season tickets are reduced from 3l. and 2l. to 30s. and 1l., and that the Commission have come to a resolution by which the sale of those tickets ceases on the 31st of August. The 5s. entrance fee on Saturdays is to be reduced immediately after the prorogation of Parliament to 2s. 6d., but the immense crowds that still flock to the Exhibition on the shilling days render it in the meantime impracticable, in the view of the Commission, to adopt measures for admitting a larger proportion of the humbler classes than now find their way into the Crystal Palace. The ladies' jury, at the head of which is Her Grace the Duchess of Sutherland, have commenced their task of examining the various articles of ladies' work exhibited, including specimens of embroidery, hand-made lace, hand-knitting, fancy needlework, and other articles of a similar nature.

THE LORD MAYOR left town yesterday morning for Paris, on a visit to the Préfet of the Seine. His Lordship will reside, during the approaching *fetes*, at the Hotel de Ville, where apartments have been prepared for him and his suite.

HEALTH OF LONDON DURING THE WEEK.—The official report says:—The deaths in the metropolitan districts, which in either of the two previous weeks hardly exceeded 870, again show an increase; for in the week ending last Saturday they rose to 956. In the same week of 1849 cholera was rapidly spreading, and swelled the amount to 1,931; but setting aside that year, and taking the corresponding weeks of other years in the series 1841-50, it appears that the lowest number was 749 in 1843, and the highest 1,201 in 1848, and within the weeks subject to comparison the amount did not in general exceed 900. Last week the births of 799 boys and 674 girls, in all 1,383 children, were registered. The average of corresponding weeks in six years (1845-50) was 1,290. At the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, the mean reading of the barometer in the week was 29.499 in. The mean temperature of the week was 60 deg.; which is rather below the average of the same week in ten years. The wind blew generally from the west and north-west.

PROVINCES.

THE BIRMINGHAM WOOL MART was opened on Wednesday under very promising auspices. The first sale of the season was held in Bingley Exhibition Hall, a place admirably suited for the purpose, and commanded a large attendance of the agriculturists of the midland counties, and the wool-staplers of Bradford, Leeds, and other parts of the West Riding of Yorkshire. The wools were exposed in bulk, each party's clip being sold separately, excepting wools, black fleeces, and locks. The stock exhibited consisted of about 15,000 fleeces. There were also piles of skin wool sold, varying in quantities of three to seventeen sheets each. At the close of the proceedings the general impression was that the various wools sold had realised their value; while at the same time the purchasers from the north expressed perfect satisfaction with their bargains.

RAILWAY INJURIES.—A case of considerable interest to the public was tried at Derby on Monday last, before Mr Baron Parke and a special jury. It was an action brought by Mrs Blake, the widow of one of the sufferers in the railway accident of the 19th of May last, against the Midland Railway Company. Mr Blake's name was found upon the list of those who had lost their lives by the grievous mismanagement of the Midland Company's servants. It was to ask compensation for so grievous a loss that his widow and administratrix appeared by her counsel, on Monday last, before the jury at Derby. No question was raised as to the facts. The jury found a verdict for 4,000l.

THE SYNOD MOVEMENT.—The Synod of Exeter is to be followed immediately by a similar pronouncement on the part of the diocese of Chichester. Other reports indicate the cathedral cities of Wells and Oxford as likely to follow in the same path in the course of the present autumn. —*Guardian.*

THREE MEN WERE KILLED BY A BOILER EXPLOSION on Tuesday morning, in the mill of Messrs Rhodes and Co., cotton-spinners, at Hey, near Oldham. The boiler was a new one, and of 42-horse power.

IRELAND.

SYMPTOMS OF IMPROVEMENT.—As the time of gathering the harvest draws nigh, with the prospect of general abundance, indications of returning confidence are becoming apparent, although the rage for emigration seems unaffected by the likelihood of a change for the better, and the safety of the potato crop. Provisions of all kinds are moderate in price and abundant. The corn markets are as high as in some years of protection, and the cattle fairs yield fair prices to the graziers. On Wednesday last, at the fair of Ballingarry, county of Tipperary, there was a large supply of fine cattle, which sold at good prices, a considerable portion for shipment to England. Ballingarry is situated in the Slieveadagh Colliery district, where much destitution prevailed during the famine. There has been a numerous emigration from that part of the country; but latterly its condition has been materially improved. Unless in a few deeply embarrassed unions in the south and west, the rates are still decreasing, and week by week the returns show a steady diminution in the number of paupers. A long but interesting communication appears in the *Freeman's Journal* from a correspondent residing in the west of Ireland, in the course of which the writer gives a very favourable account of the progress of agricultural improvement in that heretofore neglected quarter. The potato crop he describes as perfectly sound and abundant, though the people, with a prudent forethought which argues well for the future, have come to the resolution of no longer placing sole reliance on this root as a means of subsistence. Parsnips, turnips, and other green crops now fairly divide the field or garden patch with the favourite esculent.

A CHANGE IN THE TIMES.—Under this head the *Sligo Journal* mentions, with just pride, that the assizes for that county began on Monday morning at 10 o'clock, and the judges sat down to dinner at half-past six, having completed the whole business in one short day. The few offences on the face of the calendar were of the most trivial character.

LIMERICK ELECTION.—The Earl of Arundel and Surrey arrived in Limerick on Monday. His Lordship was met at the terminus of the railway by a procession of the trades. The city was quiet, so far as actual rioting was in question, but there was no subsidence of the excitement, the streets being crowded by the mobs of the respective candidates. The nomination was fixed for yesterday, and the High Sheriff has named Monday for the polling. The last accounts say that the Surreyites had circulated a report that Mr Russell was about to resign, but no credit whatever was attached to the story; on the contrary, his friends still speak confidently of his success. Nevertheless, it is admitted that his chances of support among the Roman Catholic electors are, from one cause or another, daily growing smaller; several who had given promises to vote for him escaping to the seaside rather than expose themselves to mob violence. The widows of some who had refused to support Lord Arundel were smashed on Tuesday night, owing, it is said, to the inflammatory addresses delivered a short time previous by certain of the Roman Catholic clergy, one of whom, in referring to the coming contest, described it as a "struggle between God and Lucifer—between heaven and the pit of hell." Three troops of cavalry, a whole regiment of infantry, and 400 of the constabulary are ordered to hold themselves in readiness for any emergency.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL.

CENTRAL GERMANY.

The Duke of Anhalt-Dessau has issued a proclamation suspending the constitution. It is the most thoroughly-full-blown of all the fruits which the re-established Frankfort Diet has yet produced. It would be absurd to attribute this act to any spontaneous move on the part of the Anhalt Government or of its petty Sovereign. The proclamation comes from Frankfort, and can be regarded only as an announcement of the principles and purposes of the three great powers, Russia, Austria, and Prussia, and their confederates—at this present crisis.

It is to be remarked that in this proclamation it is for the first time distinctly acknowledged that the German Sovereigns have formally entered into a pact to suppress the development of the principles of civil liberty in Germany. The Duke of Anhalt-Dessau also declares, in express unequivocal terms, that by virtue of his divine right, he issues an edict for the express purpose of violating a constitution and law sanctioned by himself, and which he has solemnly sworn and pledged himself to his subjects to uphold.

The *Frankfort Journal* contains a statement that the reigning Duke of Coburg is about to visit England, in order definitively to arrange the question of succession. Being at present childless, and without prospect of heirs, the present duke will be succeeded by his brother, Prince Albert, whose second son will be heir to the ducal throne of Coburg.

We learn from the Bavarian part of Swabia that the abolition of local and signorial jurisdiction (decreed in 1818) has in most cases remained a dead letter. As an instance of the continued assumption of feudal power on the part of "the reigning knights and counts" we have received a copy of the following penal decree, which the proprietor of a large domain in Bavaria has imposed upon the schoolmaster and the infant population of his village. The decree is as follows:—"1. No child of the village shall for the future dare to

enter the garden, the courtyard, or the castle of his *Erlaucht*. Delinquents in this respect shall be subjected on the spot to the severest corporal punishment. 2. Whereas the children of the village are in the habit of forgetting to uncover their heads on the approach of his *Erlaucht*, the schoolmasters are by these presents instructed to censure the said children for their disrespectful conduct, and, in case of its repetition, to visit them with the severest castigation. 3. If, however, in contempt of this present decree, any child, or any number of children, should dare to refuse his *Erlaucht* the respect due to his high position, the schoolmaster shall be punished by a fine, to be levied on the corn to which he is otherwise entitled from the fisc of his *Erlaucht*." This remarkable document is signed by the Count, and it bears, moreover, the counter-signature of his responsible bailiff. —*Kölnner Zeitung*.

PRUSSIA.

Several petitions have been lately presented to the Government from the Ritterschaft or squirearchy of the Prussian provinces, praying that the ancient exemption of this class from the payment of the land tax may be restored to them as a sacred old chartered right and privilege. Of all the reforms which the revolution of 1848 brought about, or at least proposed, this taxing of the nobility is the one which has excited the most bitter and strenuous opposition on the part of that body, and indeed of the whole conservative party. The subjection of the estates of the old landed proprietors to a tax from which up to the year 1849 they were legally exempt, though it was rigorously exacted from all other proprietors, from all farmers and all peasants possessing land, is represented as robbery; and the honest and holy indignation which this act of spoliation excites in the bosoms of the interested parties is really quite edifying to behold. Any one who wishes to witness the most genuine expression of honest indignation at violence and wrong wantonly perpetrated, let him talk to a Prussian Ritter on the subject of the land tax. Of course you know that the exemption from taxation alluded to was, in the old feudal times, literally bought by the obligation the Ritters placed themselves under to furnish, in time of war, or in any other emergency requiring it, a certain contingent of soldiers to the State. And the Ritters now reason, that though the obligation to furnish soldiers has ceased, the right which that obligation formerly conferred on them continues in full force.

In Berlin, the closing of the shops on the Sabbath is not to be gone on with. Last week it was strictly carried out, but caused such dissatisfaction to buyers and sellers that it was deemed expedient to yield to the strong popular feeling on the subject.

AUSTRIA.

Advices from Vienna of the 27th July state that nothing further had transpired as to the expected terms of the contemplated loan. With reference to the harvest, it is mentioned that the accounts from all the principal grain districts in Hungary state that the crops have been secured and have proved satisfactory in quality and quantity. Some of the new wheat had already been brought to market, but the samples thus far were not of a superior description. "The ultra Conservative party here (says the *Times* correspondent) finds cause for self-congratulation that 'all is going on so well,' and openly triumphs in a state of things which is calculated to fill the mind of every well-wisher to Austria with dismay. It has been made a subject of reproach to me that I lose no opportunity of depicting things in their gloomiest point of view; but if the present system is pursued, the sequel will assuredly show that my judgment has not been at fault. All traces that the imperial riding-school was used as a house of parliament have disappeared, and in winter it will be restored to its original destination."

A Pesth correspondent of the *Lloyd* makes mention of a report that Bonis and Jozipovich are condemned to death, and that the remaining members of the Hungarian Convention are to be imprisoned for periods varying between two and ten years. It is added that several political arrests have taken place in Pesth; among those mentioned is Madame Dembinski the younger, a native of Temeswar, and a person named Rosenthal, in whose possession documents connected with Mazzini were found. Rosenthal is said to have hanged himself in the military prison.

A Board of Admiralty, says a Berlin journal, is to be established at Trieste, under the presidency of Field-Marshal Wimpffen. The Austrian fleet is to be composed of ten frigates, eight corvettes, six brigs, and twelve steamers, besides transport vessels. The Germanic Diet will receive an official communication on the subject, and be invited to place the German navy under a central authority. It will also be recommended to adopt a common German flag.

Russia and Austria are coming to an arrangement for renewing the contract for the navigation of the Danube. The latter has also come to an agreement with Bavaria, and pledges itself to construct, with as little loss of time as possible, a railroad from Salzburg to Bruck, in Styria, and to have complete within five years a branch railway from Innsbruck to Kufstein and Salzburg; further, to have finished before the expiration 1858 the lines extending from Batzen to Verona, and from Lintz to Vienna. Bavaria on its part lays down at once a line from Munich to Salzburg, and engages to have complete within eight years a railroad from the frontier of Austria to Nuremberg.

PAPAL STATES.

Referring to the paltry spirit which regulates the whole of the Roman policy, the *Times* correspondent says:—"As in London, and other great cities, the several professions at Rome are filled by persons from the provinces, and many of the most distinguished members of the bar or in medicine came from the northern States. Some of these gentlemen have fallen under the displeasure of the Vatican or the suspicion of the police, and an order has come out by which persons long resident at Rome are compelled to return to the places of their birth. The *vendetta* is not confined to well-known characters, but it extends even to a waiter in a *café* and domestic

servants, and, unless it be countermanded, the greatest social disarrangement must be the result. I do not wish to press heavier on the Roman Government than it deserves; but words are wanted to express one's contempt for these vexatious and paltry annoyances, to which even the most honourable citizens and most industrious individuals are hourly exposed. It would appear, however, that the Government is determined to be deaf and blind to all appeals coming from a foreign source, as the postage on newspapers has been raised to such a price as not even the most voracious *gobe-mouche* can afford to pay. The postage on *The Times* now amounts to one dollar each number, and, as I cannot afford so expensive a luxury, I am compelled to forgo the pleasure of reading the original, and be content with extracts in *Galignani*.

The French army is being increased instead of diminished. A battalion of light troops has just arrived from Toulon. The cavalry has been reinforced within a few days. More horses are expected, and the actual accommodation not being sufficient for the increased number of troops, the Inquisition, or Santa Oficio, has been taken possession of, and that historical establishment converted into a *caserne*. All this does not look like relinquishing possession of Rome, or transferring the care of the sacred Pontiff to Neapolitan bayonets.

CANADA.

A letter from Toronto, July 12th, says—"Parliament during the past week has been occupied with matters of chiefly local interest, and a number of private bills have been advanced a stage. Among these the principle one has been a bill of Sir Alan Mac Nab, to incorporate a college, under the name of Trinity College, to be under the superintendance of the bishop of the Church of England. This is the college that Bishop Strachan intends shall run in opposition to what he terms the "godless" provincial university; and it was to obtain aid for this that he recently visited England.

This proposition of Bishop Strachan has caused a good deal of bitter feeling against the Church of England on the part of the party who are opposed to State endowments of churches. Not on the ground that this college is a State endowment, but that it is an attempt to break down the provincial university, which was rendered non-sectarian in its character by an act of last session, which excluded all religious teaching from within its walls."

UNITED STATES.

The news from New York is to the 19th inst.

The intelligence from California is of a most disastrous character. Public order had been entirely lost sight of; lynch-law was quite prevalent, and in the excitement that had ensued the police force had proved quite inefficient for the maintenance of peace. The amount of specie received is 700,000 dollars. The commercial reports from the State are unchanged in tone.

Reports from the "placers" were generally favourable; agricultural prospects are good. The market reports state that since the departure of the previous mail a general stagnation in business had been experienced; prices having generally declined, large quantities of goods had been forced on the market. The prospects for the future were not encouraging. Such was the unsettled state of affairs consequent upon the fire, no regular rate of exchange could be stated.

The Tehuantepec Surveying Expedition has returned to New Orleans. All the essential surveys, at least those which go to show the entire practicability of the railway route, are now complete. The President of the Tehuantepec Railway Company, finding that the Mexican government are employing all their influence against the completion of the work, has proceeded to Washington with the intention of enlisting the aid of the federal government.

The overflow in the Upper Mississippi and its tributaries still continues, to the great damage of the inhabitants in the vicinity. Such a flood has never been known before since the settlement of the country. It is now more than a month since the water began to rise, and for hundreds of miles along the Mississippi, Missouri, and their tributaries, the bottom lands are completely submerged; the growing crop has been entirely destroyed; many houses have been washed away; a vast amount of live stock has perished; and a wide extent of territory, which promised an abundant yield, has been rendered barren and desolate for the season. The levee, or dyke, at the city of St. Louis, has been entirely overflowed, and the warehouses filled with water to the depth of several feet.

Dates from Utah have been received to May 31st. The first ground was broken for the Great Salt Lake and Mountain Railway on the 1st of May. When this enterprise is completed, preparations will be commenced for the erection of the Temple. The condition of affairs in the new settlement is represented as highly encouraging.

INDIA.

Advices from Bombay are to the 25th.

The western frontier of the Punjab remains tranquil; the adjacent hill tribes are said to be fully employed in fighting among themselves. It is reported at Peshawar that another battle had taken place at Balkh, in which the troops of Dhost Mahomed were victorious. Dhost Mahomed's sons were said to have divided the country into four parts, each taking possession of one. Reports of Dhost Mahomed being very sick at Cabool have for some time been current, and rumours of his death have subsequently reached the frontier; these have not yet been confirmed.

The tranquillity of the Punjab has induced the Governor-General to direct the release of seventy-two political prisoners who had been sentenced to various terms of imprisonment as rebels.

Indian railway operations continue to advance rapidly; twenty-eight miles of the Calcutta line, and about the same extent of that at Bombay, are now in the hands of the contractors, and there is little doubt that next year will see the first sections of both lines completed.

The suspension of the State allowance to the temple of Juggernaut, and some cases which have been decided in accordance with the recently passed Toleration Act (No. 21 of 1850), have given rise to an anti-missionary movement among the orthodox Hindoos of Calcutta. At all three Presidencies an English education is considered by all classes of natives as the shortest road to wealth, and the only cheap English education obtainable is that afforded by the mission schools. Many thousands of native children are accordingly educated at these institutions, and now and then (though such an occurrence is wonderfully rare) a Hindoo youth is converted, much to the scandal of the native community. Many of these outcasts, on arriving at years of discretion, are desirous of returning to the religion of their fathers, but they have hitherto been prevented from so doing by the impossible severity of the mode of expiating loss of caste (wandering 48 years as an ascetic) hitherto insisted on. A great meeting of orthodox Hindoos has accordingly been held at Calcutta, for the purpose of substituting a milder form of expiation. It was stated at the meeting that there were fifty Christian converts at Calcutta, who would return to the Hindoo creed as soon as the milder form of penance was assented to. There is little doubt that it will be so eventually.

During the past fortnight there have been a couple of shipwrecks at the entrance of the harbour, one of which was attended with fearful loss of life. The ships were the *Atiet Rohoman*, from Jedda, with pilgrims, and the English vessel *Charlotte*, Captain Douglas, from Calcutta to Bombay. The first went ashore on the island of Kenery, when upwards of 150 of the pilgrims perished. The *Charlotte* was destroyed off Jingeerah, twenty miles south of Kenery—crew all saved but two.

On the 22d of May an extraordinary fall of ice occurred near Bangalore, during a storm of thunder, lightning, and rain; the hailstones which at first made their appearance were about the size of limes and oranges, but broke through the tiles and roofs of houses, and destroyed gardens and fruit trees. Some of the hailstones found next morning were as large as goose eggs, some as big as pumpkins; one block, found in a dry well, measured four feet and a half in length, three in breadth, and one and a half in thickness. It was probably the result of the cementation of several of the smaller pieces into one lump, although the fall of pieces of ice of this size is not unfrequent in India.

BIRTHS.

On the 3th ult., at Wilton house, Salisbury, the Hon. Mrs Sidney Herbert, of a daughter.

On the 2th ult., at Parslows, Essex, the Hon. Mrs Richard Denman, of a daughter. On the 29th ult., at Twyford Abbey, the residence of her mother, the wife of Edmund Burke Roche, Esq., M.P., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On the 29th ult., at St James's church, Dover, by the Rev. C. B. Bruce, rector of St Cross and Homersfield, Suffolk, the Rev. John Hawker, incumbent of Redhill, Hants, eldest son of Lieutenant-General Sir Thomas Hawker, K.C.H., Colonel of the 6th Dragoon Guards (Carabiniers), to Elizabeth, daughter of William Adair Bruce, Esq., barrister-at-law, of Ashley, Wilts.

On the 28th ult., at St George's, Hanover square, Douglas Baird, Esq., of Closeburn hall, Dumfriesshire, to Charlotte, only daughter of Henry Acton, Esq., and grand-niece of the late Sir John Edward Acton, Bart., of Aldenham hall, Shropshire.

DEATHS.

At her residence, No. 10 Gloucester terrace, Regent's park, on the 26th ult., Isabella Anne, Dowager Viscountess Hawarden, in her 93rd year.

On the 27th ult., in London, deeply and sincerely regretted, Sir Page Dick, aged 81, of Port hall, near Brighton, Sussex, ninth baronet of Braid, Scotland.

On the 25th ult., at 4 Hyde park place, Thomas Alexander Cochrane, infant son of Lord and Lady Cochrane, aged three months and a half.

COMMERCIAL AND MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

At the meeting of the United Mexican Mining Company held this week, the report and accounts were unanimously received. The present available amount in hand is about 11,200*l.*, exclusive of unclaimed dividends, which represent nearly 6,400*l.* A new manager, Captain Farrall, has gone out to occupy the place of the late Mr Shoobred.

Much satisfaction is felt in the city at the announcement that the Pasha of Egypt has at length definitively authorised the construction of a railway from Alexandria to Cairo, the agreement having been signed on the 12th inst. The road is to be finished in two years, and Mr Stephenson is to receive 55,000*l.* for the engineering part of the undertaking.

On Thursday the London Revisionary Interest Society held its eleventh annual general meeting—Sir Peter Laurie in the chair. From the report submitted to the meeting it appeared that the present value of all reversions, policies of assurance, annuities, and cash in hand, amounted to 129,027*l.* 6*s.* 10*d.*; and Mr Peter Hardy, the eminent actuary, had valued their assets at the sum of 129,181*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.*, exceeding Mr King's estimate by 154*l.* 9*s.* 10*d.*, which the directors considered as a proof of the sound and safe principles upon which the business of the society was conducted. During the past year reversions had been realised to the amount of 5,355*l.* 3*s.* 8*d.*, which yielded a clear profit of 1,300*l.* after allowing compound interest at 4 per cent. Reversions to the amount of 6,311*l.* were due to the society, and would shortly be received, and reversionary property to the amount of 13,718*l.* had been purchased on advantageous terms, and 5,000*l.* invested by way of redeemable annuity. A dividend of five per cent, free of income tax, was declared. The report was agreed to.

It is stated that a contract for the proposed submarine telegraph between England and France has been taken by Mr T. Crampton, and that the works, which are to consist of four lines of wire, are to be finished by the 30th September next. The wire is to be insulated by gutta serena, and already a considerable portion, it is said, has been completed and subjected to the requisite proofs.

The formal opening of Venice as a free port took place on the 23th inst.

In the course of a few days the throughfare for carriages over Blackfriars' bridge will be stopped. Foot passengers will, however, be permitted to pass over as usual. The committee have been reluctantly obliged to adopt this step, the continual sinking of the defective pier giving rise to serious apprehensions for the safety of the public. On the exclusion of carriages from the bridge the superincumbent weight will be taken off the crown of the arch, and the necessary steps adopted for the safety of the structure.

A "fast" young man died at Pisa, rejecting the good offices of sundry monks who threatened him with the Devil, and exacting a promise from a friend that

he would not leave his body until it was buried. The friend, a Corsican, accordingly watched over the body in the burial ground. At dead of night, the Devil stood by his side, draped in black and red, having enormous horns and a long tail. He was asked what he wanted; but as he gave no intelligible reply, and made advances towards the body, the Corsican coolly drew a pistol and shot the Devil dead. He proved to be the convent bellman.

A private letter from Athens says that workmen employed four miles from the city in draining the field of Marathon, found the place of sepulture of the warriors who fell there in the memorable battle 490 years B. C.

A swarm of workmen of all sorts have been employed the last week at the vast palace of the Hotel de Ville, to make preparations for the great industrial *fete*, which will commence on the 2nd of next month. These works are under the direction of M. Baltard, architect of the Hotel de Ville. The Court of Louis XIV. is converting into a garden, and the statue of the "Grand Roi," which was in the centre, has been taken down from its pedestal to make way for a handsome fountain. Full-grown trees are to be planted at the corners of the court, and the great gallery will be decorated for the banquet of 500 covers, which is to be served by Chevet, of gastronomic celebrity. Expeditions have been undertaken into the provinces to cater luxuries for the distinguished visitors. The meadows of Normandy have been ransacked for the finest oxen. A price ox is to be served whole, in order to gratify the British relish for roast beef. The *garde meuble* of the State has opened its stores to the Prefet of the Seine to furnish the most sumptuous gold and silver plate. Immense numbers of lustres of rock crystal are to be suspended from the ceilings.—*Galignani's Messenger*.

There is a rumour in the courts of law that the health of Sir John Jervis requires an immediate resignation of office, and that he proceeds at once to Madeira. According to the same rumour he is to be succeeded by Lord Cranworth, who has not as an Equity Judge fulfilled the expectations he raised as a Baron of the Exchequer. It is also said that Sir John Romilly will leave the Rolls to act as one of the assessors in the New Court of Appeal, and that he is to be succeeded by the Vice-Chancellor Knight Bruce.—*Morning Chronicle*.

Literature.

THE QUARTERLY REVIEW. No. CLXXVII. June, 1851. John Murray, Albemarle street.

The notice in the present number of the "Quarterly Review" of "Walpole's Correspondence with Mason" is a dull piece of criticism; and the article on "Origen," an account of the contents of a recently discovered MS. of his long-lost *Philosophoumena*, is a solemn piece of antiquarianism. The articles on "Badham's Euripides," and on the disputes in the Church under the title "Rubric versus Usage," have no interest for the bulk of readers. More suitable articles are a notice of "Dennistoun's Memoirs of the Dukes of Urbino," and a review of "Recent Travellers in North America." On historical and geographical subjects the "Quarterly" always brings forth something new and good. An article on "Scotland before the Reformation," deserves the same praise. It is at once full of learning and moderation. The amusing article in the number is on gardening, one of the special subjects the "Quarterly" has lately selected and treated with much good taste and a vast variety of knowledge. Though the desire for a garden, which it ascribes to all men, belongs rather to the last age than this, and the author writes as much from tradition as observation, that is only the exaggeration in which all men indulge on a favourite subject. The article, however, is extremely well worth reading. We extract from it the following receipt for a winter salad by Sydney Smith, written many years ago at Castle Howard, which is undoubtedly excellent, though not quite sufficient for an Englishman's dinner:—

Two large potatoes passed through kitchen sieve,
Unwonted softness to the salad give,
Of mordent mustard add a single spoon—
Distrust the condiment which bites so soon:
But deem it not, thou man of herbs, a fault
To add a double quantity of salt.
Three times the spoon with oil of Lucca crown,
And once with vinegar, procured from town.
True flavour needs it, and your poet begs
The pounded yellow of two well-boiled eggs.
Let onion atoms lurk within the bowl,
And, scarce suspected, animate the whole;
And lastly, on the flavoured compound toss
A magic teaspoon of anchovy sauce.
Then, though green tartle fail, though venison's tough,
And ham and turkey are not boiled enough,
Serenely full, the Epicure may say—
Fate cannot harm me—I have dined to-day!

If the article contribute to improve our gardening, and increase our supply of articles for salads, both in winter and summer, it will effect a much-needed improvement.

REPORT BY THE GOVERNMENT COMMISSION ON THE CHEMICAL QUALITY OF THE SUPPLY OF WATER TO THE METROPOLIS. Schulze and Co., Poland street.

In January last Sir George Grey constituted Thomas Graham, Esq., F.R.S., W. A. Miller, M.D., F.R.S., and A. W. Hoffman, Ph. D., F.R.S., a commission to inquire into the chemical quality of the various waters now supplied to the metropolis and the chemical quality of the Watford water. Their report, dated June 17, sets forth that 20 million gallons of water of this supply are daily taken from the Thames, and 26 millions from other sources. All these waters have many characteristics in common from the similar geological conditions of their sources, and are all hard waters; but with the exception of the Kent water, are all rendered to a considerable degree soft by boiling. The Thames water is described as a palatable water, generally acceptable as a beverage. No sufficient grounds exist for believing that the mineral contents of the water supplied to London are injurious to health. It may be circulated without danger through leaden pipes, and putrefactive decomposition occurs in it less rapidly than in soft water. It has a great

advantage, too, in its abundance, the average daily flow at Richmond being twelve times the present consumption of the metropolis. As the great drain of a district so thickly peopled, Thames water is much polluted; but the Commission doubt whether the existence of organic contamination from town drainage is perceptible in the Thames above the reach of the tidal flow. While the report is far more favourable to the waters at present supplied to the metropolis than the generality of the statements lately made on the subject, it shows that the supply proposed by the Board of Health must be taken from the streams as well as the springs of the gathering grounds, and would be at once insufficient and much harder than the engineers of the Board have stated. The Watford water resembles the Thames water and the water supplied by the New River Company. The report cannot be said to have set the question of the supply of water at rest, for it is still undergoing investigation, but it has relieved all uneasiness and anxiety as to our present supply. It is at once wholesome and abundant, and with a little care may be made equally as pure and bright. The public should be grateful to these gentlemen for the care they have bestowed on the subject and for their elaborate report. It has had the effect of making those pause, who, a few months or even weeks ago, were most positive and most determined to get rid of the present supply—who were terrifying the inhabitants of the metropolis with daily denunciations of the water companies, and the horrible impurities and scanty supply of water they gave us. They now say the subject is involved in doubt and difficulty, and they recommend inquiry, caution, and unity in action, to obtain for the water-rate payers of the metropolis, which is very desirable, a means of securing a control over the management of the supply and efficient service. They have become much less noisy and much more moderate and wise.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

- Dublin University Magazine for August.
- The Bankers' Magazine for August.
- The Colonial Magazine for August.
- The Farmers' Magazine for August.
- Tait's Magazine for August.
- The Church of England Magazine for August.
- The New Monthly Belle Assemblée for August.
- The Sportsman's Magazine for August.
- Penny Mans. Part 13.
- Discours de M. Sainte-Beuve. Paris.
- Introduction to the Harmony of the Universe; or, Principles of Physico-Harmonic Geometry. By Juan Nepomuceno Adorno. London, 1851.
- Baines' History of Liverpool. Section VI. Longman and Co.
- Why should the Bishops continue to sit in the House of Lords. (Pamphlet.) By G. A. Denison, M.A. Masters.

To Readers and Correspondents.

Communications must be authenticated by the name of the writer.

The Bankers' Gazette.

BANK RETURNS AND MONEY MARKET.

BANK OF ENGLAND.
(From the Gazette.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending on Saturday the 26th day of July 1851:—

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

L.	L.
Notes issued	27,325,485
Government debt	11,015,100
Other Securities	2,984,900
Gold coin and bullion	13,192,110
Silver bullion	33,375
	27,325,485

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

L.	L.
Proprietors capital	14,553,000
Reserve	3,223,598
Public Deposits (including Exchange, Savings Banks, Commissioners of National Debt, and Dividend Accounts)	4,295,495
Other Deposits	9,097,562
Seven Day and other Bills	1,195,967
	32,365,322
Government Securities, including Dead Weight Annuity	13,464,021
Other Securities	11,600,605
Notes	6,719,445
Gold and Silver Coin	591,251
	32,365,322

Dated the 31st July, 1851.

THE OLD FORM.

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

Liabilities.	L.	Assets.	L.
Circulation inc. Bank post bill:	21,711,707	Securities	21,511,636
Public Deposits	4,295,495	Bullion	13,816,736
Other or private Deposits	9,097,562		
	35,104,764		35,328,362

The balance of assets above liabilities being 3,223,598l, as stated in the above account under the head Rest.

FRIDAY NIGHT.

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

A decrease of Circulation of	£165,231
An increase of Public Deposits of	338,489
A decrease of Other Deposits of	486,254
A decrease of Securities of	202,471
A decrease of Bullion of	46,311
An increase of Rest of	4,214
An increase of Reserve of	71,694

The present returns made up to the 26th ult., show a decrease of circulation, 105,231l; an increase of public deposits, 338,489l; a decrease of private deposits, 486,254l; a decrease of securities, 202,471l; a decrease of bullion, 46,311l; an increase of rest, 4,214l; and an increase of reserve, 71,694l. The returns possess no other feature of interest than the continual decrease of gold, though the decrease is small.

It is somewhat remarkable, because every week almost announces importations of gold from the United States, and every week the quantity of gold in the Bank diminishes. The exportations in the

week ending the 24th inst., amounted to 27,362 ounces of gold, or 106,540l, and 64,800 ounces of silver, 16,200l, together, therefore, 122,740l, which accounts for so much. It is probable, too, as is asserted, that the number of foreigners who have come to visit the Exhibition, and the number of other visitors it has set in motion, may cause a greater quantity of gold to remain in circulation than usual, but that would scarcely explain the abstraction of gold from the issue department. It will in fact be seen, by comparing the returns last week and those we now publish, that the diminution of gold in the issue department is 58,075l, while the coin in the banking department has increased 11,764l. A part of the gold imported from the United States is, we believe, in coin, and the owners of it may find it more advantageous to send it to the Mint to be coined, than to sell it to the Bank at 3' 17s 8d per ounce, the price it has lately given for foreign coin, and having had it coined, they may have put it into circulation. During the period, which is sometimes considerable, that it remains at the Mint, the gold, if it belongs to private persons, will appear in no account. For the report which we have heard, that the Mint has for the moment stopped coining, there is, we believe, no foundation, and if it were true, the gold in its possession belonging to the Bank would appear in the Bank returns. On the whole, we conclude that the quantity remaining in circulation and the quantity exported balances the bullion and coin continually imported.

The money market has been for the last few days and is to-day a little stiffer. For money on call 2½ is given, and the best bills cannot be discounted under 3 or 3½ per cent. A temporary pressure is caused by the third of the month falling on Sunday, but there is also an increased demand for money arising from an increase of business.

The exchanges on Amsterdam and Paris have improved, and are more favourable than they were. Parties are remitting to Paris French paper, and it is a good sign that persons there have confidence in the French funds. We heard of one person who yesterday sent not gold to Paris, but 50,000l of French Rentes.

Circulars have been received from Vienna asking for orders to purchase portions of the new loan that is to be issued for 80,000,000 florins. The terms are stated to be from 93 to 94 in a five per cent. stock. The transaction is not favourably regarded, and we have not heard that any orders have been sent.

The funds excite very little attention. They are generally steady—were firm in the early part of the week from the French funds coming firm, and were drooping yesterday and to-day from a more active demand for money. Consols closed to-day at 96½. The following list shows the opening and closing prices of this stock on each day, and the closing prices of the other principal stocks last Friday and this day:—

	CONSOLS.		Account	
	Money	Account	Money	Account
	Opened	Closed	Opened	Closed
Saturday	96½	96½	96½	96½
Monday	96½	96½	96½	96½
Tuesday	96½	96½	96½	96½
Wednesday	96½	96½	96½	96½
Thursday	96½	96½	96½	96½
Friday	96½	96½	96½	96½
	Closing prices last Friday.		Closing prices this day.	
3 percent consols, account ..	96½	96½	96½	96½
— money	96½	96½	96½	96½
8½ per cents	98½	98½	98½	98½
3 per cent reduced	97½	97½	97½	97½
Exchange bills, large	45s 5d pm.	45s 8s	45s 8s	45s 8s
Bank stock	215½ 16½	215½ 16½	215½ 16½	215½ 16½
East India stock	262 4	261 4	261 4	261 4
Spanish 3 per cents	38½	38½	38½	38½
Portuguese 1 per cents	34 5	32½ 3¼ x d	31	31
Mexican 5 per cents	30½	30½	30½	30½
Dutch 2½ per cents	59½ 60	59½	59½	59½
— 4 per cents	92½ 3¼	93	93	93
Russian, 4½ stock	100½ 1	100½	100½	100½
Sardinian 5 per cent scrip	—	½ dis ½ pm	—	—

The railway market, which has been improving for some time, was yesterday all alive, and to-day was dull and retrograde. Midlands, which were yesterday at 45, opened to-day at 43, and closed at 42½ to 43. Similar variations between yesterday and to-day took place in other shares. Of course no similar changes have taken place in the real value of the shares, but the members of the Stock Exchange having been rather bare of stock after the last settlement, at which there were no continuations, were yesterday getting into stock, and to-day prices reverted pretty nearly to their level in the early part of the week. There were no purchases yesterday by the public of any consequence, and the fluctuations were entirely due to the speculations of the members of the Stock Exchange. The following is our usual list of the closing prices of the principal shares last Friday and this day:—

	RAILWAYS.	Closing prices this day.
	Closing prices last Friday.	
Birmingham and Oxford gua.	28 9 x in	28 30
Birmingham and Dudley	8 9 pm	8 10 pm
Bristol and Exeter	78½ 9½	78½ 9½
Caledonians	10½	11 ½
Eastern Counties	6½	6½
East Lancashire	15½ 14½	14½ 15
Great Northern	16½ 17	17½
Great Western	83½ 4½	85 6
Lancashire and Yorkshire ..	41½	40 50
London and Blackwells	64	61 7
London, Brighton, & S. Coast	53½ 4½	53½ 4½ x d
London & North Western	122½ 3½	124 5
London and South Western ..	83½ 4½	83½ 4½
Midlands	40½	42½ 43
North British	64½	65 7
North Staffordshire	9½ 8 dis	9½ 8 dis x in
Oxford, Worcester, & Wolver.	14 14½	14½ 15
South Eastern	21½ 2½	22½
South Wales	26½	27 8
York, Newcastle, & Berwick	18½ 2	19½ 19
York and North Midland	18½ 2	18½ 19

LATEST PRICES OF AMERICAN STOCKS.

Table with columns: Payable, Amount in Dollars, Dividends, London Prices, Avg. 1. Price, July 18. Lists various American stocks and bonds with their respective prices and dividends.

Exchange at New York 110 1/4.

INSURANCE COMPANIES.

Table with columns: No. of shares, Dividend, Names, Shares, Paid, Price pr. share. Lists various insurance companies and their financial details.

JOINT STOCK BANKS.

Table with columns: No. of shares, Dividends per annum, Names, Shares, Paid, Price pr share. Lists various joint stock banks and their financial details.

DOCKS.

Table with columns: No. of shares, Dividend per annum, Names, Shares, Paid, Price pr share. Lists various docks and their financial details.

FOREIGN RATES OF EXCHANGE ON LONDON AT THE LATEST DATES.

Table with columns: Latest Date, Rate of Exchange on London. Lists exchange rates for various foreign locations like Paris, Antwerp, Amsterdam, etc.

COMPARATIVE EXCHANGES.

The quotation of gold at Paris is about 1/2 per mille discount (new tariff rate), which, at the English mint price of 3l 17s 10 1/2d per ounce for standard gold, gives an exchange of 25.05 1/2; and the exchange at Paris on London at short being 25.02 1/2, it follows that gold is 0.12 per cent. dearer in Paris than in London.

By advices from Hamburg the price of gold is 425 1/2 per mark, which, at the English mint price of 3l 17s 10 1/2d per ounce for standard gold, gives an exchange of 13.5 1/2; and the exchange at Hamburg on London at short being 13.5 1/2, it follows that gold is 0.29 per cent. dearer in London than in Hamburg.

The course of exchange at New York on London for bills at 60 days' sight is 110 1/4 per cent; and the par of exchange between England and America being 109 23-60 per cent., it follows that the exchange is nominally 0.92 per cent. in favour of England; and, after making allowance for difference of interest and charges of transport, the present rate leaves a profit on the importation of gold from the United States.

The Commercial Times.

Mails Arrived.

LATEST DATES.

On 28th July, AMERICA, per Africa steamer, via Liverpool—Montreal, July 14; Boston, 15; New York, 16. On 28th July, HAVANA, July 8, via United States. On 29th July, INDIA, via Marseilles—Mauritius, May 21; Calcutta, June 15; Madras, 18; Bombay, 23; Aden, July 9; Cofu, 13; Alexandria, 20; Malta, 23. On 30th July, AMERICA, per Baltic steamer, via Liverpool—Montreal, July 17; Boston, 18; New York, 19; California, June 14. On 30th July, JAMAICA, July 11, via United States.

Mails will be Despatched

FROM LONDON

On 5th Aug. (evening) for AMERICA, CALIFORNIA, and HAVANA, per Baltic steamer, via Liverpool. On 7th Aug. (morning), for VIGO, OPORTO, LISBON, CADIZ, and GIBRALTAR, per steamer, via Southampton. On 7th Aug. (evening), for the MEDITERRANEAN, EGYPT, and INDIA, via Marseilles. On 8th Aug. (evening), for BRITISH NORTH AMERICA, BERMUDA, UNITED STATES, and HAVANA, per Canada steamer, via Liverpool and Halifax. On 9th Aug. (morning), for PORTUGAL, MADEIRA, CAPE DE VERD ISLANDS, BRAZILS, and RIVER PLATE, per Tay steamer via Southampton. The Santiago steamer is appointed to sail from Liverpool Aug 7, for Madeira, Rio de Janeiro, and Valparaiso; letters in time on Aug. 6. H.M. steamer Waterwitch is expected to sail from Plymouth Aug. 8, for Sierra Leone and Teneriffe (Canary Islands); letters in time on Aug. 7. H.M. steamer Stylx is expected to sail from Plymouth Aug. 7, for Madeira and Cape of Good Hope; letters in time on Aug. 6.

Mails Due.

Aug 5.—West Indies. Aug. 5.—Mexico. Aug. 6.—Spain, Portugal, and Gibraltar. Aug. 6.—America. Aug. 10.—Cape of Good Hope. Aug. 13.—Brazil and River Plate. Aug. 23.—West Indies. Aug. 23.—Havana, Honduras, and Nassau. Aug. 23.—Western Coast of South America (Chil. Peru, &c.) Aug. 23.—Malta, Greece, Ionian Islands, Syria, Egypt, and India. Aug. 23.—China, Singapore, and Straits.

WEEKLY CORN RETURNS.

From the Gazette of last night.

Table with columns: Sold, qrs, Wheat, Barley, Oats, Rye, Beans, Peas. Shows weekly and six-weekly averages for various grains.

GRAIN IMPORTED.

An account of the total quantities of each kind of corn, distinguishing foreign and colonial, imported into the principal ports of Great Britain, viz.:—London, Liverpool, Hull, Newcastle, Bristol, Gloucester, Plymouth, Leith, Glasgow, Dundee, and Perth, In the week ending July 23, 1851.

	Wheat and wheat flour	Barley and barley-meal	Oats and oatmeal	Rye and rye-meal	Peas and pea-meal	Beans & bean-meal	Indian corn and Indian-meal	Buckwheat & buckwheat-meal
	qrs	qrs	qrs	qrs	qrs	qrs	qrs	qrs
Foreign ...	61,259	9,526	20,892	259	658	6,950	12,861	...
Colonial ...	9,803	1,031	...	495	...
Total ...	71,062	9,526	20,892	259	1,689	6,950	13,357	...

Total imports of the week 123,577 qrs.

COMMERCIAL EPITOME.

FRIDAY NIGHT.

Under the influence of fine weather, and more favourable accounts from the continent of the crops than for some weeks past, and very favourable accounts from the United States, the wheat market was extremely dull to-day, with no alteration in the prices. Barley remains about the same. Oats are 1s cheaper, in consequence of large arrivals from abroad, principally from Russia. Too little is yet known of the harvest for the market to assume a decided character; but the fine weather, and the reports from abroad this week are of a cheering description.

The sugar market continues heavy and dull; the consumption is large, but the quantity imported is also large, and at present fully adequate to the consumption.

Coffee has met a brisker sale to-day than for many months, and there has been through the week a great disposition to purchase. The prices have advanced. The advices from the continent are good, and the prospects for the holders of coffee, after a long depression, are brightening.

The cotton market has experienced a brisker demand this week, and 3,090 bales have been sold. In the manufacturing districts business continues good, and is even better than it has been reported. "A large amount of business," says Messrs McNair, Greenhow, and Irvine, "has been transacted during the present and closing month, notwithstanding the external features, which have been very dull, declining, inanimate, and cheerless." Something similar has taken place in other markets, in which there has been no apparent animation, while a great deal of steady business has been done. The prospects of the cotton trade are at the present moment extremely good.

The sales of colonial wool, which are to be continued to the 15th inst., go off remarkably well. Every day there is a large collection of buyers, and every day a keen competition who shall have the lots, though the buyers will not give beyond former prices. Manufacturers from our clothing districts and continental buyers attend daily in considerable numbers, and each one gets only a part of what he would willingly buy at the price the wool is sold for, though not willing to give more.

For mohair and alpaca wool the demand is very extensive, in consequence of the large use made of them in manufacturing the light coats, now so much worn, and the price is accordingly high. The market remains bare of low wool.

"The tobacco trade of the last month," says Messrs Grant and Hodgson, in their circular, "was quite of a retail character, and sales do not possess sufficient interest to deserve enumerating. The market may be considered easier, with a manifest desire on the part of importers and holders to make concessions to buyers."

MONTHLY INDIGO STATEMENT.

TABLE showing the Deliveries of Indigo from London during the first seven months of the last ten years, and the stocks remaining on the 1st of August:—

	Home Consumption.	Export.	Total.	Stock 1st of August.
	chests.	chests.	chests.	chests.
1851	4,136	9,808	13,944	37,257
1850	5,233	14,300	19,533	29,701
1849	5,359	11,816	17,175	37,021
1848	5,855	8,823	14,678	34,393
1847	5,167	11,963	16,230	34,899
1846	6,179	9,813	16,012	30,766
1845	6,459	10,730	17,189	36,883
1844	6,368	10,794	17,162	32,792
1843	4,094	6,947	11,041	23,019
1842	5,254	8,232	13,486	22,675

On examining the above table, we find that the present total stock of indigo in London is about 37,200 chests of all sorts, against 29,700 chests August 1, 1850, and against an average of nearly 36,000 chests in each of the previous six years at the same time. The low figure of Aug. 1, 1850, was the consequence of the large delivery in the previous twelve months, and the accumulating stock since that time must solely be attributed to the diminished outgoings from our warehouses, while the supply of indigo from various parts of the world has increased, probably in consequence of the high prices which ruled during the last twelve months, and up to the quarterly sale in July last. The increase of the supply consists mostly of Madras, Kurpah, Manilla, &c. The annual importations of these sorts were calculated at about 6,000 chests [see Econ., page 548, May 17, 1851]; but they turn out much larger, and may probably reach 10,000 chests in the twelve months from May 1851, to the same time 1852. The supplies from Calcutta ex crop 1850 are not larger than what they were expected, and will but little exceed the quantity previously stated—viz., 22,000 chests.

But the deliveries of indigo from the London warehouses have been fearfully reduced. The total outgoings for home consumption and exportation in the twelve months from Aug. 1, 1849, to July 31, 1850, amounted to no less than 35,132 chests, while those for the same period ending July 31, 1851, reach only 23,101 chests, and are consequently 12,000 chests less than the previous season. It becomes more and more

clear that the deliveries of indigo from the London warehouses during the last two years, are not a correct indication of the real consumption of the article in those foreign countries which draw their supplies from the London market.

It must not be lost sight of that the value of indigo in the London market has been more than ordinarily cheap during the years 1848, 1849, and the first half of 1850, and as manufacturing pursuits on the Continent assumed a more stable and secure complexion in the course of the year 1849 and down to the autumn of 1850, parties of all descriptions gradually invested money in indigo, the value being at the period stated from 15 to 25 per cent. lower than what it is even now, after the considerable decline which has taken place since the autumn of 1850. We are informed that numerous consumers in Germany, Austria, Prussia, and Russia, laid in stocks to last them in their ordinary business twelve months and longer. Dealers likewise held larger stocks than usual, continental speculators and capitalists did not entirely neglect the article during the period mentioned, when it was more than ordinarily moderate in price, and the stocks of such parties have gradually found their way into the workshops of dyers, near and far, nor are they as yet—we are credibly assured—exhausted.

We must at this stage of the description of the indigo market in London, not omit to mention that in consequence of excessive importations in France in 1850, dealers and other parties in Germany and elsewhere took from the Havre and Bordeaux markets upwards of 2,000 chests of Bengal, &c., indigo in the autumn of that year, which circumstance of course caused a corresponding decrease in the exports from this country, and at the same time helped to fill the stores of the continental merchants and consumers.

Political convulsions towards the close of 1850, and the consequent uncertainty how events would finally turn out, have unquestionably impeded and curtailed business all over Europe for a time, but we believe that the effects of those imminent apprehensions have disappeared. Still it cannot be denied that confidence in the political stability of most of the continental countries is not entirely restored, and will probably not be re-established for some time to come.

The prospects now before us with respect to the trade in indigo we believe to be favourable, inasmuch as we may expect a greater regularity in it than what we have hitherto experienced. The stocks are large, and several thousand chests more of the last (1850) production in the Bengal and Madras districts are likely to arrive before the close of this year.

With the present mode of selling indigo in the quarterly sales in catalogues A and B, it is of little importance to investigate the quantities in first or in second hands. Of the present "total" (37,257 chests) and of what is still to come, it is pretty clear that there will be ready for disposal at the next ensuing quarterly sales in October 1851, and February 1852, the following quantities, viz.:—

1. Supply to London, ex Bengal crop 1850, about 22,000 chests,—three-fourths of which not yet brought to market	16,500
2. Madras, Kurpah, &c.	4,500
Total	21,000

Besides these quantities there are many parcels which have not yet passed the quarterly sales, although they are not any longer in the possession of the original importer. Such parcels are, it is presumed, frequently put up in the A catalogue. Some of them, together with numerous parcels of indigo which have been frequently sold and re-sold, are at present in the hands of London speculators, who entered into operations in indigo in the course of the year 1850, in expectation of the continuance of large deliveries and small supplies. It is supposed that at present upwards of 11,000 chests of indigo are thus situated in the hands of recent speculators, who will, precisely as the original importers, be ready for the sale of their property whenever they think the moment suitable. It is in such cases immaterial whether indigo is bought in Calcutta or in London, whenever it is destined for re-sale in the English markets.

We hear frequent complaints of the trade and of brokers, that the quantity of indigo put up in our quarterly sales is often swelled up disproportionately. Although we acknowledge the inconvenience of such proceedings, we cannot easily discover a remedy for such an evil. We have only four quarterly sales in each year, at which every holder is at liberty to offer, and to try to sell, whatever he thinks proper, and the quantities can never be expected to be small, if there is sufficient indigo in the warehouses to be sold.

If no new attempts at speculation are made, it is not likely that in each of the next quarterly sales in October 1851, and February 1852, more than 5,000 or 6,000 chests will be disposed of. Such quantities, with a few thousand chests of intermediate transactions, will probably be sufficient to furnish the home and foreign markets with the necessary supplies, and it is hoped that the demand will not be so scanty as of late, since it is thought that the French markets will not afford much indigo this season to foreign Europe.

But under all circumstances, it is not likely that the total deliveries of the present year will reach 30,000 chests, and that quantity will leave us at the commencement of the new (1852) year with a stock very much in excess of that at the beginning of the present year. It must not be overlooked that our supply of Guatemala indigo is this year much larger than in previous seasons.

There appears, however, to be a fair prospect that the present value of indigo may be maintained for another season, since the prospects of this year's production in the Bengal districts are certainly not favourable. A crop of 100,000 maunds, however, may furnish close upon 20,000 chests of indigo for the London market, which, with 8,000 or 10,000 chests of Madras, Manilla, &c., may be sufficient for one year's outgoings from London for home and foreign wants.

The transactions in indigo in our market have, since the July sales, been upon a moderate scale, at prices which are a little above the average July rates.

The following is the last account from Calcutta, dated 12th June:—The business since our last has been confined to a small public sale of 21 chests, which were parted with at unaltered rates. The reports since to hand

from most of the indigo districts have been filled with complaints of the continued want of rain, and scorching heat increasing the injury to the outstanding cultivation daily...

COTTON.

New York, July 19.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT

OF RECEIPTS, EXPORTS, AND STOCKS OF COTTON AT

Table with 4 columns: Location (New Orleans, Mobile, Florida, Texas, Georgia), Date, Quantity, Location (South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, New York, Other Ports), Date, Quantity.

Table with 4 columns: Date, 1850-51 (bales), 1849-50 (bales), Increase/Decrease 1850-51.

STOCK OF COTTON IN INTERIOR TOWNS (Not included in Receipts).

Table with 2 columns: Date, 1850-51 (bales), 1849-50 (bales).

COTTON TAKEN FOR CONSUMPTION IN THE UNITED STATES from Sept. 1 to the above dates.

Table with 4 columns: Date, 1850-51 (bales), 1849-50 (bales), Difference.

VESSELS LOADING IN THE UNITED STATES.

Table with 4 columns: Ports, For Gr. Britain, For France, For other Ports.

The market has been exceedingly depressed throughout the week, and closes without spirit at a decline on the low grades, and 1/2c on the better.

Table with 4 columns: Port (Atlantic, Florida, Other Gulf), Quality (Inferior, Low to good, Middling, Fully fair), Price (c. c.).

LIVERPOOL MARKET, Aug. 1. PRICES CURRENT.

Table with 9 columns: Ord., Mid., Fair, Good Fair, Good, Fine, 1850-Same period (Ord., Fair, Fine), per lb per lb.

IMPORTS, CONSUMPTION, EXPORTS, &c.

Table with 8 columns: Whole Import, Consumption, Exports, Computed Stock, 1851 (bales), 1850 (bales).

The free buying which was commenced at the close of last week, has been continued through the whole of this, both by consumers, exporters, and speculators.

EXPORTS FROM THE PORT OF HULL. From 1st January to 23rd July, 1851, and the corresponding period in 1850.

Table with 12 columns: To (Petersburg, Hamburg, Bremen, etc.), Cotton Twist, Worsted Yarn, Other Yarns & Threads, Cotton Goods, Wool-ten Goods, Cotton Wool.

Messrs Brownlow, Pearson, and Co.'s Circular.

MARKETS OF THE MANUFACTURING DISTRICTS.

MANCHESTER, THURSDAY EVENING, JULY 31, 1851.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF THE COTTON TRADE.

Table with 10 columns: Price (July 31, 1851), Price (July 1850), Price (July 1849), Price (July 1848), Price (July 1847), Price (July 1846). Rows include Raw Cotton (Upland fair, Ditto good fair, etc.) and Mule Yarn (No. 40, No. 30 Water, etc.).

Our market is in a much more regular state; the amount of business done during the last fortnight has taken off all stocks and engaged the production of the most anxious sellers for some time to come.

In yarn the demand continues upon low counts at the full rates of last week, both for home use and export. Buyers have very little choice of qualities in the market.

The demand for cloth is unchanged, being equal to production for almost every description; prices are in some cases a shade higher, but no quotable difference.

The accounts brought by the East India mail are such as were expected. In Bombay nothing doing, it being the Monsoon period.

The favourable accounts received from America this week respecting the growing cotton crop has had no effect upon our market, nor in Liverpool, as spinners continue to buy freely.

BRADFORD, July 31.—The position of the wool trade is really perplexing, for that which is usually the most active month in the year, is now an anomaly, for animated as the buying from the farmers has been, it has not all been impelled by the healthy state of the yarn trade.

LEEDS, July 29.—The market at the cloth halls has been good, and a fair quantity of goods continue to be delivered to order.

HUDDESFIELD, July 29.—Our market continues much the same as last week. A pretty active trade has been done during the week.

ROCHDALE, July 28.—The piece market has undergone little change since last Monday, either in price or demand. In wool the demand is steady, and prices firm, with a scarcity of that quality of wool varying from 9d to 13d per lb.

HALIFAX, July 26.—In our piece hall to-day there has been rather more doing in light fancy goods; but for heavy fabrics there is hardly any inquiry.

LIVERPOOL.—The demand continues to improve, and the workmen are better employed. Yarns remain steady, and more is doing in them.

CORN.

AMERICAN CORN AND FLOUR MARKETS.

NEW YORK, July 19.—Breadstuffs—Flour, &c.—In flour we have to note a very brisk business, but prices of most kinds were a shade lower. The sales amounted to 20,000 barrels, uninspected and sour, at 3 dols 25c to 3 dols 75c; superfine No. 2, 3 dols 75c to 3 dols 94c; mixed to straight Western, 4 dols to 124c; fancy ditto, with ordinary State, 4 dols 12c to 4 dols 18c; round hoop Ohio, 4 dols 18c to 4 dols 25c; pure Genessee and fancy Ohio, 4 dols 25c to 4 dols 374c; fancy Genessee and extra Ohio, at 4 dols 50c to 5 dols; and extra Genessee, at 5 dols to 6 dols. Canadian also fell off a little in value, when 1,500 barrels common to good, in bond, were purchased at 4 dols 12c to 4 dols 25c. Southern exhibited no new feature of interest. 1,200 barrels mixed to straight were sold at 4 dols 37c to 4 dols 50c; and fancy, at 4 dols 87c to 5 dols 37c. Corn meal continued depressed, only a few lots of Jersey having been taken at 3 dols; and State, at 2 d 1s 814c. Wheat was inanimate and declining. A further parcel of 4,000 bushels Michigan white was disposed of at 1 dol 34c. Corn improved a trifle, and was less freely offered. Some 50,000 bushels damaged and heated changed hands at 50c to 55c; Western mixed, at 574c to 58c; and round yellow, at 60c to 604c.

Export of BREADSTUFFS from the United States to Great Britain and Ireland since Sept. 1, 1850.

Table with columns: From, Flour, Meal, Wheat, Corn, Oats, Barley. Rows include New York, New Orleans, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Boston, Other ports, Total, and About same time last year.

LONDON MARKETS.

STATE OF THE CORN TRADE FOR THE WEEK.

MARK LANE, FRIDAY MORNING.

The supply of English wheat at Mark Lane on Monday was very short from Essex, but moderately good from Kent, and there was a steady sale for all the best qualities at the prices of the previous week. The imports of foreign wheat were to a tolerably good extent, and there was a fair sale without any change in the value of any sort. The imports consisted of 7 qrs from Agger Canal, 2,994 qrs from Barletta, 8,504 qrs from Dantzic, 891 qrs from Ghent, 200 qrs from Groningen, 235 qrs from Hamburg, 1,325 qrs from Konigsberg, 157 qrs from Memel, 700 qrs from Nantes, 341 qrs from Nieupoit, 700 qrs from Pillau, 1,380 qrs from Rostock, and 1,303 qrs from Wisnar, making a total of 18,930 qrs. The arrivals of flour coastwise were 2,505 sacks, by the Eastern Counties Railway 4,392 sacks, from foreign ports 3,620 sacks and 2,475 barrels. The trade for good fresh-made samples was firm, and fully as much money was obtained; the imports of French are steadily falling off, and consists of parcels sold for forward delivery. There were no arrivals of barley from our own coast, Scotland, or Ireland, and the imports of foreign only amounted to 3,020 qrs; its previous value was well supported, and the distillers were free buyers. The arrivals of oats coastwise were very trifling, consisting of 473 qrs, with no supply from Scotland or Ireland, but the imports of foreign were 29,555 qrs, more than one-half coming from Russian ports; the demand was steady from the consumers at former prices.

The imports at Liverpool on Tuesday were good, and wheat met a slow sale at about former rates: average, 41s 10d on 123 qrs. There was scarcely so much tone in the trade as on Friday.

There were fair arrivals at Hull, and the supply of wheat from the farmers was moderate, for which no decline would be submitted to, and the demand was limited: average, 42s 1d on 604 qrs.

The arrivals of wheat at Leeds were limited, but the morning being fine, previous ungenial weather had no effect on the minds of the buyers, and wheat was taken cautiously by the millers at former prices: average, 43s 11d on 1,356 qrs.

The fresh arrivals of English grain at Mark Lane on Wednesday were very limited, but the imports of foreign oats were very large, and of wheat and barley good. The morning being fine and hot, trade was much the same as on Monday—firm for wheat but receding for oats. There was rain again in the market hour.

The weekly averages were 42s 5d on 64,035 qrs wheat, 25s 7d on 2,289 qrs barley, 22s on 4,614 qrs oats, 27s on 73 qrs rye, 32s 3d on 1,935 qrs beans, and 28s 7d on 277 qrs peas.

Stockton market was well supplied with wheat by the farmers, and there were large imports of foreign; prices declined 1s per qr, with a slow sale: average, 46s 7d on 129 qrs.

The supply of wheat at Birmingham was large, and the millers purchased it slowly at 1s per qr reduction: average, 42s 11d on 2,218 qrs.

There was a very large quantity of wheat brought forward at Newbury, and it was taken off languidly at 1s to 2s per qr decline: average, 42s 3d on 732 qrs.

Uxbridge market was shortly supplied with wheat, and a slow demand was experienced at the previous rates: average, 46s 2d on 724 qrs.

At Bristol trade for wheat was dull, and the supply of English was larger; prices unaltered: average, 41s 5d on 191 qrs.

The Scotch markets have been dull, supply of wheat short from the farmers at Edinburgh, prices unaltered: average, 46s 3d on 562 qrs. Imports at Leith very large, as well as at Glasgow; wheat was rather cheaper.

For Friday's market at Mark Lane there were short fresh arrivals of English grain, but a good import of foreign wheat, barley, and flour, with a very large quantity of oats in since Monday. Some heavy rains have fallen at intervals during the week, and there has been little sunny weather to push forward the crops to maturity, but a general commencement of harvest is anticipated about the 11th instant: here and there a few early patches of self-sown barley, as well as of Talavera wheat, peas, and oats, have been cut. The limited quantity of English wheat on sale supported Monday's prices, and foreign was taken off steadily without any change in its value. Good fresh flour met a fair demand, at quite as much money. Barley was rather dearer, being scarce, and in better demand. Peas sold more freely, several parcels having been purchased for shipment nothward; former rates were readily paid. The abundance of Russian oats on the market caused a slow trade, at 6d decline, in some instances 1s per qr abatement was accepted. The London averages announced this day were,—

Table with columns: Wheat, Barley, Oats, Rye, Beans, Peas. Values in Qrs and d.

Table with columns: Wheat, Barley, Malt, Oats, Flour. Values in Qrs and d.

PRICES CURRENT OF CORN, &c.

Table with columns: Wheat, Barley, Malt, Oats, Flour. Values in Qrs and d. Includes sub-sections for BRITISH AND IRISH and FOREIGN.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL PRODUCE MARKETS.

TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK. (For Report of This Day's Markets see "Postscript.")

MINCING LANE, FRIDAY MORNING.

SUGAR.—There has not been any activity in the market this week, and former prices hardly maintained in many instances. Importers of foreign continue to bring forward large supplies. A moderate amount of business has been done in the West India market, at last week's rates. 190 hhds Bardadoes, at auction, brought 36s to 39s for low to good; fine, 40s to 40s 6d. 131 hhds and tierces Jamaica sold from 33s to 37s 6d for brown to good middling yellow. 270 brls other kinds brought the market prices of the day. Arrivals of foreign are still heavy, and the aggregate stock at this port on 26th ult. was 17,984 tons in excess of the former season's at same date. The deliveries for home use last week were 4,225 tons.

Mauritius.—The demand is rather limited, and 7,700 bags submitted on Tuesday, about half sold at previous rates: good to fine grocery, 37s 6d to 39s; low to good middling, 35s to 37s; low to middling strong refining, 34s 6d to 36s 6d; middling to good brown, 32s to 34s 6d; crystallised grey and yellow, 39s to 43s; brown and low ditto, 36s to 38s 6d per cwt. The deliveries are steady, being computed at 518 tons during last week.

Bengal.—1,400 bags offered at commencement of the week were about two-thirds bought in at 28s for low to 31s 6d for good soft brown; fine white Cossipore sold steadily at 48s; and a few lots good middling to fair white Benares at 40s to 40s 6d per cwt.

Other East India.—615 bags Penang were taken in at 38s to 39s for mid to good soft white.

Foreign.—The market is inactive, and some parcels brought forward yesterday were partly sold at former rates in most instances. 306 hhds 99 brls Porto Rico brought 34s to 37s 6d for good brown to middling yellow, and 38s to 41s 6d for good middling to fine. Of 3,680 boxes Havana, about 1,700 sold at 34s to 38s 6d for good brown to good yellow; a few lots fine 39s to 39s 6d. 3,526 bags Paraiba were above two-thirds taken in: remainder sold at 39s 6d to 42s for middling to very good white; middling to fine yellow, 36s 6d to 39s 6d; browns chiefly taken in at 32s to 34s. The sound portion of 324 cases, 43 barrels, 72 bags Bahia was withdrawn, a few lots washed selling at low prices. By private contract, a cargo of 4,000 bags brown Pernambuco was sold at 17s, and a cargo of yellow Havana at 21s 6d; also 1,400 boxes old, on the spot, at 35s 6d per cwt.

Refined.—Most of the refiners continue firm in demanding last week's rates, but the market has been quiet. Yesterday, brown goods could not be bought under 46s 6d; middling to good and fine titlers have sold at 47s to 49s 6d; wet lumps, 44s to 46s; fine pieces, 42s to 43s. Bastards and treacle are unaltered. The bonded sugar market is flat. A limited business has been done either in crushed or loaves: the former still held at 28s to 29s 6d; the latter have sold at 30s for 10lb. Some parcels Dutch crushed are reported at low prices.

COMMERCIAL TIMES

Weekly Price Current.

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

Table listing various commodities such as LONDON, FRIDAY EVENING, Ashes, Cocoa, Coffee, Cotton, Drugs & Dyes, Dyewoods, Fruits, and various oils and fats.

Table listing various types of Hides (Ox & Cow, Goat, etc.) and Metals (Copper, Iron, Lead, etc.) with their respective prices.

Table listing various types of Seeds (Caraway, Canary, etc.) and Spices (Pepper, Cloves, etc.) with their respective prices.

Table listing various types of SUGAR (REF. cont'd), Tallow, Tea, Timber, and various other goods with their respective prices.

Table listing various types of Wool (English, etc.) and other goods with their respective prices.

Per lbs to sink the affals.

Table with columns for quality and price per lb. Includes entries for inferior, second quality, and prime large oxen, sheep, and calves.

Totals supply at market:—Beasts, 510; sheep, 14,600; calves, 240; pigs, 252. Scotch supply:—Beasts, 100; sheep, 60. Foreign:—Beasts, 120; sheep, 700; calves, 52.

BOROUGH HOP MARKETS.

MONDAY, July 24.—We are unable to report any decided improvement in the prospects of the growing crop, and the duty is steady at 95,000l. The demand is moderate, with few hops on offer.

FRIDAY, Aug. 1.—Although we observe but little improvement in the reports from the plantations, several parties are backing the duty at 90,000l. Fine hops are rather scarcer, and quite as dear.

WORCESTER, July 28.—We have a good demand for hops, at a small advance in price, new Worcesters being a ready sale at 95s to 100s per cwt.

COAL MARKET.

MONDAY, July 28.—Bate's West Hartley 13s—Howard's West Hartley Netherlon 13s 6d—Jonasohn's Hartley 12s 6d—North Percy Hartley 13s—New Tanfield 13s—Ravensthorpe West Hartley 18s 6d—Stobart's Tees Hartley 12s—Tanfield Moor Butes 13s 6d.

WEDNESDAY, July 30.—Bate's West Hartley 13s—Hartlepool West Hartley 13s 6d—North Percy Hartley 13s—New Tanfield 13s—Ravensthorpe West Hartley 13s 6d—Tanfield Moor 13s—Tanfield Moor Butes 13s 6d.

LIVERPOOL MARKETS.

WOOL. FRIDAY NIGHT.

The demand for low descriptions continues good, at full prices, being very scarce, but for other kinds they are not so well supported.

CORN.

Scarcely any change has taken place in the grain market since Tuesday. Prices have remained firm with a fair demand.

FOREIGN MARKETS.

AMSTERDAM, July 28.

COFFEE.—The market remains firm, although little business was done; at last week's prices nothing is to be had, but the demand is not brisk enough to allow an advance for some quantity.

SUGAR.—About 1,100 boxes yellow Havana were sold at 27½f to 29½f new condition, and about 800 hhd's Surinam and Nickerie at 22½f to 23½f.

INDIGO.—Although transactions remain on a small scale and are confined to the want of the moment, prices keep very steady.

NETEGES.—No. 1 remain in demand at 150 cs, being the highest price allowed, although holders in general keep higher.

CORN.—Wheat—small parcels were taken in the former part of the week for home-use. Rye—dried in good demand, several lots of some importance changed hands at former prices on speculative account and for home-use.

PETERSBURGH, July 19.

BRISTLES.—Okatka, 1st sort, and Sachoy, dried, are in good demand, but without change in price; 2nd sort are dull.

CORN.—Nothing whatever doing. Oats are lower,—those weighing poods 5 30, may be had at S. R. 2 90, and 6 poods at S. R. 3.

FLAX.—No purchases making. B. R. 106 is said to be offered for 9-head to the minor dealers, who hold at B. R. 110.

HEMP.—Hemp has been in very active demand; about 2,500 tons, on the spot, and for delivery this and next month, having been taken by various houses, principally of clean.

LINSEED.—About 3,500 chetwerts have been done at B. R. 30 for Cazan; 2½ for Rjef; and at proportionate prices for intermediate qualities.

TALLOW.—There has been more doing. On the spot, about 1,500 casks have been taken at B. R. 112½ for common; and 114 for Ukraine.

The Gazette.

Friday, July 25.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

Porter and Todd, Coach and Horses lane, Hornsey, stonemasons—Bircumshaw, Fletcher, and Co., Nottingham, glass manufacturers—Boden, Fielder, and G. and T. Hodgkin, Manchester, agents for the sale of yarns and calicoes.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

William Buddle, Irongate wharf, Paddington, timber merchant.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATION.

A. Carsewell, Greenock, ship-builder. J. Grant, Glasgow, manufacturer.

Tuesday, July 29.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

Cressy and Wilkinson, Brighton, auctioneers—H. and J. Lelliott, Derby, coal merchants—Wincote and Dike, Charlwood street, Pimlico, builders—Brown and Smith, exhibitors of a moving tableau—J. and M. D. Hudson, London, and Kingston-upon-Hull, merchants—Watson and Fish, Stonebridge within—Oswaldtwistle, Lancashire, cotton spinners—F. and J. Baker, Norman's buildings, Great Mitchell street, St. Luke's, ironfounders—Cook and Down, Plymouth, glaziers—Capes and Smith, Manchester, auctioneers—Marsh and Sons, Dudley, Worcestershire, fender manufacturers; as far as regards T. Marsh—Smith and Jones, Stoke-upon-Trent, Staffordshire, colliers—Copland and Wylie, Manchester, braziers—Hooper and White, Birmingham, ironfounders—G. and R. Wright, Dronfield, Derbyshire, coalmasters—Ferris and Gill, Totnes, Devonshire, drapers—Bedington and Tonks, Birmingham, brassfounders—Smith, Cox, and Co., Derby, cheese-makers; as far as regards Sewell and Holland—Lund and McNeil, Preston, Lancashire, pawnbrokers—Fox and Barrington, Manchester, manufacturing chymists—Renfrew and Sinclair, Glasgow, wadding manufacturers.

DECLARATION OF DIVIDENDS.

F. E. D. Hast, Aldermanbury, merchant—first div of 5s, on Monday, August 4, or any subsequent Monday, at Mr Cannan's, Birchln lane. R. Woolfall, Warrington, Lancashire, butcher—first div of 2½d, on Thursday, July 31, and every subsequent Thursday, at Mr Lee's, Manchester.

BANKRUPTS.

Edward Herring, Trinity street, Southwark, manufacturing chymist. John Limbird, Strand, stationer. Richard Keeping, Ryde, Southampton, watchmaker.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

A. Edmond and A. Gibb, Edinburgh and Leith, stockbroker. J. Cochran, Cochrane place, Largs.

Gazette of Last Night.

BANKRUPTS.

Henry Mowbray Arliss and Elijah Tucker, printer, Frith street, Soho square. John Brown, grocer, Deal.

MISCELLANEOUS.

SPIRITS (IRELAND).—From a return relative to spirits, obtained at the instance of Sir R. Ferguson, and printed by order of the House of Commons, it appears that the number of detections for offences in Ireland against the laws for the suppression of illicit distillation was, in the year ending April 5, 1851, 3,518; the number of prosecutions, 1,112. The number convicted was 981, against 1,058 in 1850, and against 962 in 1849.

REVENUE OF IRELAND.—The net produce of the revenue of Ireland paid into the Exchequer in the year ending 5th January, 1851, was 4,094,653l, viz., customs 1,829,289l, excise 1,312,122l, stamps 462,691l; miscellaneous 492,542l. The net income of the country (including a balance remaining in the Exchequer at the commencement of the year of 1,026,099l) was 5,121,643l, and the expenditure 4,199,751l, leaving a balance in the Exchequer of 621,891l. The excise collections at the port of Dublin in 1850 amounted to 329,291l, and the duties of customs to 874,943l.

COUNTY RATES.—Mr Milner Gibson, M.P., has obtained a return respecting the county rates. It appears that in 1849 and 1850 there was expended of the grants made by Parliament in aid of the county rates the sum of 455,647l 14s, of which 382,483l 14s 6d was for counties, and 73,163l 9s 6d for boroughs and liberties.

STATISTICS OF CRIMINAL OFFENDERS.—According to the returns to Parliament there were 26,813 persons committed for trial in England and Wales in the course of last year. The number in the preceding year (1849) was 27,816. Of the number committed last year 2,578 were ordered to be transported, and 17,602 to imprisonment. The number sentenced to death was 49.

BURGESS' AND FREEMEN'S PARLIAMENTARY FRANCHISE.—By an act of Parliament which has received the Royal assent (14 and 15 Victoria, cap. 39), burgesses and freemen are exempted from the operation of an act for the better assessing and collecting the poor rates and highway rates in respect of small tenements. It is now provided that the right of voting reserved by the 2 and 3 William IV., cap. 45, to persons then entitled, is not to be affected by the change of rating under the 13 and 14 Victoria, cap. 99.

NEW ACT RELATING TO LANDLORD AND TENANT.—A new act came into force on Thursday last (14th and 15th Victoria, chap. 25), to improve the law of landlord and tenant in relation to emblements, to growing crops seized in execution, and to agricultural tenants' fixtures. It enacts that, on the determination of leases or tenancies under tenant for life, &c., instead of claims to emblements, the tenant shall continue to hold and occupy such farms or lands until the expiration of the current year. Growing crops of the tenant seized and sold under an execution shall, in default of sufficient goods and chattels of the tenant, be liable for the accruing rent; notwithstanding any bargain and sale, or assignment, which may have been made or executed, of such growing crops, by any such sheriff or other officer. A tenant may remove the buildings and fixtures erected by him on a farm, unless the landlord shall elect to take them. Further, it is provided that on a tenant quitting the place, leaving the tythe rent charge unpaid, the landlord may pay the same, and recover it from the first named tenant as if it were a simple contract debt. The act, which is not to extend to Scotland, contains five clauses.

STATEMENT

Of comparative Imports, Exports, and Home Consumption of the following articles from Jan. 1 to July 26, 1850-1, showing the stock on hand on July 26 in each year. For THE PORT OF LONDON. If those articles duty free, the deliveries for exportation are included under the Head Home Consumption.

East and West Indian Produce, &c.

Table with columns for Importers, Duty paid, and Stock. Rows include British Plantation (West India, East India, Mauritius, Foreign) and Foreign Sugar (Cheriban, Siam, & Manilla, Havana, Porto Rico, Brazil).

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

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

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

COCOA.—Cwts. Br. Plant., Foreign.

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

RICE.—British EI., Foreign EI., Total, PEPPER (White, Black), NUTMEGS (Do. Wild, CAS. LIG.), CINNAMON, PIMENTO.

Raw Materials, Dye Stuffs, &c. COCHINEAL, LAC DYE, LOGWOOD, FUSTIC.

INDIGO.—East India, Spanish.

SALTPETRE.—Nitrate of Potass, Nitrate of Soda.

COTTON.—American, Brazil, East India, Liverpl., all kinds, Total.

The Railway Monitor.

CALLS FOR AUGUST.

Subjoined are the railway calls for August, so far as they have yet been advertised:—

Table with columns: Date when due, Amount per Share (Already paid, Called), Number of Shares, Total. Lists various railways like London and North-Western, Maria Antonia, etc.

* The proportion called by foreign companies is 6,000l. Note.—The above amount is irrespective of the call (due the 16th of August) of 1s per cent. upon so much of the Great Western Company's guaranteed four-and-a-half per cent. stock as may be issued.

EPITOME OF RAILWAY NEWS.

LONDON AND GREENWICH.—The half-yearly meeting of this company was held this week. From the balance sheet, it appeared that the income of the past half-year was 21,008l. and the expenditure 11,696l. 9s 7d; leaving a balance of 9,311l. 10s 5d applicable to a dividend. The chairman moved that a dividend of 4s 3d per share be declared; which was agreed to unanimously.

LONDON AND SOUTH-WESTERN.—It appears that it is the intention of the directors of this company, at the meeting to be held on Thursday next, to recommend a dividend for the half-year ending the 30th of June last, at the rate of 3 1/2 per cent per annum on the capital stock of the company. ST HELENS AND RUNCORN.—At the half-yearly meeting just held, the report stated that the traffic continues to improve, showing an increase in the receipts of 2,017l. over the corresponding period of 1850.

RAILWAY SHARE MARKET.

LONDON. MONDAY, July 28.—The railway market experienced a good deal of fluctuation during the day, but the tendency in prices was on the whole towards improvement. TUESDAY, July 29.—Railway shares have been buoyant, but the purchases are principally on speculation. A heavy settlement is in course of arrangement, the favourable feature in it being the moderate rates of continuation, as there is no quantity of stock pressing on the market. WEDNESDAY, July 30.—Railway shares opened at higher quotations, and a further improvement took place in the market during the day. THURSDAY, July 31.—The railway market was well supported to-day, and the speculators having taken their stock, a further improvement in prices was noticeable. FRIDAY, Aug. 1.—Railway shares are for the most part very fluctuating. CALLEDONIAN have been lower, and Midland, after opening well, have gone back. The bears now assert that there are plenty of shares to be got. IRISH EXCISE.—A return just issued regarding the excise on spirits in Ireland shows an increase of 50,523l. in the amount of duty received last year, the total having been 995,372l.

The Economist's Railway Share List.

The highest prices of the day are given.

Table with columns: No. of shares, Amount of shares, Amount paid up, Name of Company, London (M. F.). Includes entries for Aberdeen, Ambergate, Birmingham, Bristol and Exeter, etc.

Table with columns: No. of shares, Amount of shares, Amount paid up, Name of Company, London (M. F.). Includes entries for Shropshire Union, South Devon, South Eastern, etc.

Table with columns: No. of shares, Amount of shares, Amount paid up, Name of Company, London (M. F.). Includes entries for Aberdeen, Caledonian, Chester and Holyhead, etc.

Table with columns: No. of shares, Amount of shares, Amount paid up, Name of Company, London (M. F.). Includes entries for Berks and Hants Extension, Birmingham & Oxford Junction, etc.

Table with columns: No. of shares, Amount of shares, Amount paid up, Name of Company, London (M. F.). Includes entries for Boulogne and Amiens, Central of France, etc.

OFFICIAL RAILWAY TRAFFIC RETURNS.

Large table with columns: Capital and Loan, Amount expended, Average cost, Dividend per cent., Name of Railway, Week ending, Receipts (Passengers, Merchandise, Total), Traffic per mile, Miles open in 1851 and 1850. Includes entries for Aberdeen, Belfast & Ballymena, Birkenhead, etc.

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

Single Rate of Postage upon Foreign and Colonial Letters when conveyed by packet. a Signifies that the postage must be paid in advance. b Denotes that the rate includes British and Foreign postage contained.

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

Table with columns for destination, route, and postage rate. Destinations include Aden, Alexandria, Algeria, Austria, Baden, Bavaria, Belgium, Berlin, Bremen, Brunswick, Buenos Ayres, California, Cape of Good Hope, Canada, Ceylon, China, Constantinople, Cuba, Carago, Cuxhaven, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, France, Frankfurt, Galatz, Gallia, Gibraltar, Greece, Hanover, Hamburg, Hess, Heligland, and Hess.

BOTTLED ALES, STOUT, & C.—Messrs HOLMES and ZOHRRAB, having made arrangements with Messrs James Thorne and Co. of the Westminster Brewery, for the exclusive bottling of their celebrated ales and stout for exportation, are now prepared to execute orders on the most liberal terms, and to any extent, for beer, in proper condition, which they can guarantee will bear any voyage or climate.

FREEZING AND SODA WATER MACHINES.—ICE PRODUCED IN ONE MINUTE.—The Public is respectfully invited to inspect the process of making PURE ICE by MASTERS and CO'S PATENT FREEZING MACHINES, JUGS, BUTTER and WINE COOLERS, which are very simple in their construction, and effect the production of ice of the purest quality in a very rapid manner, without the aid of ice.

Also, MASTERS and CO'S PATENT SODA WATER APPARATUS.—An elegant and simple machine for charging water, wine, and other liquids with pure carbonic acid gas. Captains of vessels and officers going abroad, country gentlemen, and all who appreciate the finest aerated beverages, should not fail to procure one of these machines. Price 30s, 42s, 63s each, and upwards.

MASTERS and CO'S PATENT KNIFE CLEANERS (warranted), 35s, 42s, 52s each, and upwards. No family should be without one.

N.B.—These machines are used daily on a gigantic scale at the Eastern and Western Refreshment Rooms of the Crystal Palace, which are supplied by Mr Masters, from his Confectionary Establishment, 333 Oxford street, Regent's circus.

DEPOT for MASTERS' INVENTIONS, 309 REGENT STREET, next the entrance to the Polytechnic Institution.

PERUVIAN GUANO.—CAUTION TO AGRICULTURISTS.

It being notorious that extensive adulterations of this manure are still carried on, ANTONY GIBBS and SONS, as the only importers of Peruvian Guano, consider it to be their duty to the Peruvian Government and to the public again to recommend farmers and all others who buy to be carefully on their guard.

The character of the parties from whom they purchase will of course be the best security; and in addition to particular attention to that point, ANTONY GIBBS and SONS think it well to remind buyers that the lowest wholesale price at which sound Peruvian Guano is or has been sold by them during the last two years is £9 5s per ton, less 2s per cent.

Any resales made by dealers at a lower price must therefore either leave a loss to them, or the article must be adulterated.

HUBBUCK'S PATENT WHITE ZINC PAINT.

THE PERMANENT WHITE OF THE ANCIENT ARTIST. Combines Elegance, Durability, Health, and Economy, THE WHITEST OF ALL PAINTS.

retains its whiteness for years, being unaffected by bilge-water, noxious vapour from cargo, or from red heat on the funnels of steam vessels. Neither exposure to damp or to salt water, nor change of climate, act upon it. Under these and other circumstances, when every other paint hitherto known and tried has failed, the "White Zinc Paint" has preserved the fastness of its colour. In addition to its preservative properties, when applied to outside wood work, it is invaluable for iron ships and iron work exposed to salt water. By virtue of its galvanic action it enters the pores of the iron, and forms a species of amalgam of the two metals, which is a strong preservative.

"PATENT WHITE ZINC PAINT.—This elegant paint is coming into very general use, and certainly its properties are such as to recommend it, both from its purity as well as economy. For a long period it was restricted entirely to artists; but Hubbuck's patent has reduced the expense so much as to render it available to general purposes. The usual complaints against new paint are entirely removed, and a newly-painted apartment may be immediately occupied without the slightest odour so deadly to invalids and infants."—BRITANNIA, Nov. 16, 1850.

"As improvement pursues its course, we are glad to hail a discovery really and truly possessing the recommendations of utility, healthfulness, and convenience, even though it approaches us in a less pretentious guise than those great and startling discoveries of science which command at once our admiration and astonishment.—Now, amongst the most hateful and unwholesome of domestic nuisances has been that irreparable accompaniment of 'house cleaning,' the abominable white paint, with its nauseous and pestilential odour. This nuisance is now in a fair way towards being abolished. We have had opportunity to observe the quality and the efficiency of the Patent White Zinc Paint introduced by Messrs Hubbuck, and we can conscientiously say that it is justly entitled to rank among those substantial blessings which chemical science has procured us. In beauty and durability, as well as in the minor consideration of economy, it presents advantages which, combined with the banishment of the consequences of the old disgusting 'paint poison,' place its application amongst the really 'sanitary improvements' of the time; and we shall be glad to see the British public making general use of the good service which it offers."—WEEKLY CHRONICLE, Dec. 14, 1850.

Each cask is stamped "HUBBUCK—LONDON—PATENT." A circular, with full particulars, may be had of the Manufacturers,

THOMAS HUBBUCK and SON, Colour Works, opposite the London Docks. Specimens of the Paint may be seen at the Office of the ARTISAN Journal, 69 Cornhill.

FOR PHILADELPHIA FROM LIVERPOOL.—The Steam ships CITY OF GLASGOW, Capt. LEITCH, 13th August, and the CITY OF MANCHESTER, Capt. CAMPBELL, 10th September. First cabin, 22 guineas; second cabin, 13 guineas.—For further particulars, see "Bradshaw's Guide," or apply to RICHARDSON BROTHERS and CO., Liverpool.

BRITISH AND NORTH AMERICAN ROYAL MAIL STEAM SHIPS, appointed by the Admiralty to sail between LIVERPOOL and NEW YORK, direct, and between LIVERPOOL and BOSTON, the Boston ships only, calling at Halifax to land and receive passengers and Her Majesty's Mails.

The following or other vessels are appointed to sail from Liverpool every Saturday as under—

CANADA, for BOSTON, Saturday, August 9. ASIA, for NEW YORK direct, Saturday, Aug. 16.

Cabin passage, including steward's fee, £35, but without wines or liquors, which can be obtained on board. Dogs charged £5 each. These steam ships have accommodation for a limited number of second cabin passengers at £20 each, including provisions. Freight £4 per ton until further notice. For passage or other information, apply to J. B. Foord, 52 Old Broad street, London; S. Cunard, Halifax; S. S. Lewis, Boston; Edward Cunard, jun., New York; D. Currie, Havre, and 10 Place de la Bourse, Paris; G. and J. Burns, Buchanan street, Glasgow; or D. and C. M'Ever, Water street, Liverpool.

NOTICE TO PASSENGERS AND SHIPPERS.—The "ARCTIC," Capt. LUCE, will be despatched as an extra boat from Liverpool to New York on Wednesday, July 30.

UNITED STATES MAIL STEAMERS between LIVERPOOL and NEW YORK.

The steam ships comprising this line are the ATLANTIC, Captain WEST; PACIFIC, Captain NYE; ARCTIC, Captain LUCE; BALTIC, Captain COMSTOCK; ADRIATIC, Captain GRAFTON.

The rate of passage by these Steamers is Thirty-five Pounds; reserving six or eight of the largest State Rooms for Families, for which an extra price will be charged.

No berth secured until the passage money be paid. Freight on Goods from Liverpool £4 per ton. The vessels of this line are appointed to sail as follows:—

Table listing ship names and departure dates from Liverpool. Includes Baltic, Pacific, Atlantic, and Arctic.

Table listing ship names and departure dates from New York. Includes Pacific, Atlantic, and Arctic.

These ships having been built by contract expressly for the American Government service, every care has been taken in their construction, as also in their engines, to insure strength and speed; and their accommodations for passengers are unequalled for elegance or comfort.

An experienced surgeon will be attached to each ship. The owners of these ships will not be accountable for gold, silver, bullion, specie, jewellery, precious stones, or metals, unless bills of lading are signed therefore, and the value thereof therein expressed.

For freight or passage apply to E. K. COLLINS, New York; E. G. ROBERTS and Co., 13 King's Arms yard, Moorgate street, London; L. DRAFER, jun., 26 Rue Notre Dame des Victoires, Paris; G. H. DRAFER, 9 Quai du Commerce, Havre; or to BROWN, SHIPLEY, and CO., Liverpool.

AUSTRALIAN LINE OF PACKETS SHIPS for SYDNEY direct, and regular traders for VAN DIEMAN'S LAND, PORT PHILLIP, SOUTH AUSTRALIA, &c. These splendid ships are all of the first-class, have most elegant accommodations for passengers, and engagements will be given for their days of sailing:—

ST GEORGE, 900 tons; J. Jones, captain; Sydney; to sail August 10. HOOGHLY, 650 tons; J. Durrant, captain; Port Phillip; to sail August 4. ABBERTON, 650 tons; J. James, captain; Port Phillip; to sail August 15. ROYAL GEORGE, 700 tons; M. Robson, captain; Port Phillip; to sail August 25. MEDWAY, 800 tons; A. Mackwood, captain; Port Phillip; to sail September 5. MAITLAND, 900 tons; W. Henry, captain; Port Phillip; to sail September 20. MAID OF AUCKLAND, 400 tons; S. Shepherd, captain; Port Adelaide; to sail August 2. HYDASPES, 700 tons; A. Hole, captain; Port Adelaide; to sail August 5. IRIS, 230 tons; R. Dobson, captain; Port Natal; to sail August 2. MIDDLETON, 450 tons; J. Storie, captain; Hobart Town; to sail July 31.

For further particulars apply to the undersigned, who are constantly dispatching a succession of superior first-class ships (regular traders) to each of the Australian Colonies, &c. MARSHALL and EDRIDGE, 34 Fenchurch street.

WEIGHING MACHINES.—HENRY POOLEY and SON

beg to call the attention to wharfingers, carriers, manufacturers, merchants, and others to their PATENT PLATFORM WEIGHING MACHINES, adapted for all purposes, and which present such great advantages in despatch and economy as compared with the scale, beam, and weights, or any other machine before the public. Their sole agency is at 9 Arthur street west, London Bridge, where sample machines are kept, and drawings, prices, &c. may be had. Shipping orders executed with the greatest despatch.—Apply to JAMES HOLTGATE, wholesale and export Ironmonger, 9 Arthur street west.—A liberal discount allowed to the trade.