

# The Economist,

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## The Political Economist.

### POSTAL COMMUNICATION WITH INDIA, CHINA, AND AUSTRALIA.

EVERY succeeding account that arrives from California brings fresh proofs of the great commercial vitality possessed by the young and enterprising Anglo-Saxon community that has so suddenly sprung into existence on the Western coast of the American continent; and their rapidly increasing communication with China, the Islands of the Eastern Archipelago, and those of the South Pacific, suggest, in the most forcible way, the urgent necessity which is imposed upon this country to leave nothing undone which can facilitate our own direct intercourse and trade with our possessions in the East, and the foreign markets which we possess in those seas. It is only about two years ago that the new settlement in California was first heard of. Before the close of the first year, notwithstanding the distance, it possessed no less than 100,000 inhabitants. During the second year of its existence it has been admitted as a separate state of the Great American Union; and before the close of the present year it is estimated that it will contain a population of upwards of 300,000 souls. The golden realities of California have already attracted to San Francisco a large number of Chinese. The direct and easy communication between that portion of the United States and all the markets in the China and Indian Seas—when looked at in connection with the facilities, which are rapidly being realised, in the communication between the states on the shores of the Atlantic and this new and vigorous state on the shores of the Pacific—point to the certainty, that at no distant day a large direct trade will spring up between the Western coast of America and those great Eastern markets which this country has hitherto considered as especially its own, and with regard to which we have till now possessed advantages of a geographical kind over our competitors in the Western hemisphere. It is true that of late years our own facilities of intercourse with the East have been greatly and rapidly increased; and what is now going forward in the United States only tends to show the wisdom and the prudence of those measures which have been taken, with so much spirit and expense, to shorten the distance between this country and our Eastern

empire and Eastern markets. But it is quite plain that it will require all our efforts to retain the advantages which we have already secured.

Such are the reflections naturally suggested by a perusal of the correspondence, which took place in the present year between the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the East India Company, with reference to a proposed plan for steam communication with our Australian colonies, and embracing a much more perfect communication with all our Eastern markets. That subject, important at all times, has acquired a new urgency from the considerations to which we have now referred; and certainly to no portions of British interests, more than to those which are immediately connected, whether politically or commercially, with British India. To them it is a question of vital and urgent importance whether the great highway to our Australian colonies, and to the islands in the Southern Pacific, shall be direct through our Indian possessions, or whether it shall be through the Isthmus of Panama, affording a fresh stimulus to the efforts which will be made by the people of the United States to divert the trade of the East into that channel. In addition to these considerations, the growing importance of the direct communication between India and China, and between India and Australia, is of itself sufficient to give a peculiar interest in the subject to those intrusted with the Government of India.

In point of mere distance, it is computed that the route for a steam communication with Australia, would be shortest through the Isthmus of Panama. By that route the distance is computed at 12,690 miles; and the route through the Mediterranean, by Suez and Singapore, is computed to be 13,288 miles. But there are many obvious advantages, which, at least at present, recommend the latter route in preference to the former. Politically, it recommends itself, by uniting in one system several parts of the British empire; commercially, by making our communication more perfect with several important markets besides Australia, and by connecting those growing colonies with our Eastern possessions, in which none are so deeply interested as the East India Company.

That a steam postal communication should be established between this country and our Australian colonies is a matter upon which public opinion has for some time been unanimous. About a year ago tenders were invited by the Government for that service. It only requires that we should look at the map to discover the numerous advantages, and the great economy which would be secured, by connecting that service with the steam communication which we already enjoy with our possessions in the Indian Seas. Accordingly, the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company made a tender to convey the mails to Australia in steamers of a suitable class, in connection with their existing contract for the conveyance of mails to the East; but in order to secure the greatest economy, their proposal involved some modification of existing arrangements, to which it was necessary to obtain the concurrence of the East India Company. The true merits of this question, and the discussions which arose out of it, will be best understood if we first state what are the existing arrangements for the conveyance of the mails to the East. We need not refer to the route from London *via* France to Malta, as it is not proposed in any way to alter that. We will therefore confine our observations to the route from Southampton.

1. From Southampton to Malta the mails are conveyed by the vessels of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company.
2. From Malta to Alexandria they are conveyed by the steam ships of the Royal Navy, at a cost of 10,000*l.* a year.
3. From Suez to Bombay they are conveyed by steam ships belonging to the Indian Navy, at an assumed cost of 100,000*l.* of which the British Government pays 50,000*l.* and the Indian Government is expected to pay 50,000*l.*; but it is understood that the cost being somewhat more than was expected, the share paid by the Indian Government is at least 55,000*l.* This arrangement is fixed for a period which will expire in 1852.
4. From Suez to Calcutta, calling at Ceylon and Madras, there

is a monthly communication, carried on by contract with the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Company.

5. From Calcutta to Singapore and Hong-Kong there is also a monthly communication, in connection with the last mentioned, and conducted under the same contract. For these two services—that is, from Suez to Calcutta, and thence to China—the British Government and the East India Company between them pay at present 160,000*l* a year. This contract expires in 1852.

Through these various agencies then—of the vessels of the Royal Navy, of those of the Indian Navy, and of those of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company—we have at present two communications monthly with India, one with Ceylon, and one with Singapore and China.

For the sake of simplicity and clearness in considering the real question which was at issue between the East India Company and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in the correspondence recently published, we may throw out of consideration the existing contract of the Peninsular and Oriental Company for the conveyance of the mail from Suez, *via* Ceylon, direct to Calcutta, with a branch to China, as it is not proposed, in the meantime, to make any change in that route, nor is it proposed that any new contract now entered into with the same Company shall in any way prevent the Government from dealing with this existing contract as they may deem best when it will expire in 1852. So far, therefore, as it was proposed to interfere with existing arrangements, such interference would apply only to the conveyance of the mail from Southampton to Bombay, which, at present—assuming the cost from Suez to Bombay to be no more than 100,000*l*—costs the two Governments 110,000*l*, of which the British Government pays 60,000*l* (that is, 10,000*l* from Malta to Alexandria, and 50,000*l* from Suez to Bombay), and the Indian Government 50,000*l*.

Having thus described the existing arrangements, we will now state the offer made by the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Company. The immediate object in view, was to establish steam communication between this country and the Australian colonies. In almost a direct line from England to Australia, we had already secured the advantages of steam communication, as we have already described, as far as Singapore. The most natural mode then of extending it, was by a branch service from that station, in immediate connection with the line of steamers now running from Suez to Calcutta, and thence by Singapore to China. But a reference to the map will at once suggest one rather important disadvantage in that course. It involves the loss of a considerable period of time, occupied in sailing from Cape Comorin up the Bay of Bengal to Calcutta, and back again to the Straits of Malacca, making the distance from Ceylon to Singapore nearly double what it would be in direct sailing from Colombo. No doubt this is a delay to which we are at present exposed in our communication with Singapore and China; but considering how important and extensive the intercourse is between those stations and Calcutta, that diversion from the direct route has never been complained of as a grievance. In the case of Australia, however, it is widely different. This point is not urged in the correspondence referred to, but to us it appears that the Australian colonies would have good ground for complaint if their communication with England were thus lengthened by some *twelve or fifteen days* in steaming up and down the Bay of Bengal, in place of taking a direct route from Singapore round Cape Comorin.

The proposal made by the Peninsular and Oriental Company, among other advantages, obviated that objection. But as the only means of securing the greatest possible efficiency combined with economy, the proposal was accompanied with a stipulation that they should have their whole service from Southampton to the various points mentioned in the East, in one unbroken line. The economy of management, and the greater profit derived from the conveyance of light packages and passengers, in a long unbroken chain of intercourse, compared with a system involving frequent changes and various administrations, are too obvious to require dwelling upon. On condition, therefore, that the whole distance should be performed “in their own vessels without any break in the line,” that Company proposed:—

1. To re-establish a fortnightly communication from Southampton, which was discontinued about three years ago, and to complete the distance from Southampton to Alexandria in their own vessels, instead of the portion from Malta being, as at present, performed by the Royal Navy.
2. To convey in their vessels, in place of those of the Indian Navy, the mails between Suez and Bombay once a fortnight.
3. To continue the line from Bombay direct to Singapore, calling at Ceylon; thus avoiding the delay of going to Calcutta.
4. To establish a branch line from Calcutta to Singapore, by Penang, to join the direct route from Bombay at Singapore, thus giving to Calcutta all the advantage of all this additional intercourse.
5. To continue a line from Singapore to Hong Kong and China.
6. To continue another line from Singapore direct to Australia.

By this complete and comprehensive system of communication, we should secure the following striking advantages:—

1. Two departures from Southampton monthly, in place of one.
2. A direct intercourse from Suez to Ceylon, Singapore, and

China, and from Calcutta to Singapore and China, twice in each month in place of once, as at present.

3. The great and important object of steam communication from this country to Australia once a month, *via* Singapore, avoiding the loss of time of calling at Calcutta, but having still all the advantage of a direct communication with that part of India, by the branch line of steamers from Singapore, as well as the similar advantage with regard to Hong-Kong. A more perfect and complete system of communication between the British possessions in the East, including Australia and New Zealand, and all our important foreign markets in that part of the world, could not well be imagined.

Well, all these extraordinary advantages the Peninsular and Oriental Company proposed to secure to the country for the annual payment of 105,000*l*—a sum at least 5,000*l* less than it now costs the two Governments for the present comparatively imperfect communication with India and China, and without any communication with Australia whatever. In place, therefore, of a direct steam communication with Australia forming any new expense, we should, by the proposed arrangement, for 5,000*l* less than is now expended, not only accomplish that very desirable object, but, in addition, we should secure two departures from Southampton in the month, in place of one; two direct communications from Suez to Ceylon, Singapore, and China in the month, in place of one; and two direct communications from Calcutta to Singapore and China, in place of one. All these were to be accomplished for 105,000*l*; whereas, for the present limited and inefficient service, the two Governments pay at least 110,000*l*—in the proportions of 60,000*l* by the British Government and 50,000*l* by the Indian Government. The Chancellor of the Exchequer proposed that the sum of 105,000*l*, to be paid to the Peninsular and Oriental Company, should be divided between the two Governments, in the proportion of 70,000*l* by the British Government and 35,000*l* by the Indian Government; thus making a direct saving to the latter of 15,000*l* a year, independent of all the increased facilities embraced in the plan, and at an increased cost of only 10,000*l* a year to the Imperial Government, securing all the advantages which we have described.

But in order to enable the Chancellor of the Exchequer to complete that advantageous arrangement, it was necessary that the British Government should give up the portion of the line now performed by the Royal Navy from Malta to Alexandria, and that the Indian Government should relinquish the portion of the line from Suez to Bombay now performed by the Indian Navy. With regard to the former, no opposition was offered. All experience has shown that the mail service can be performed by private companies, under contract, both better and cheaper than by the Royal Navy. But the only obstacle that stood in the way was the refusal of the East India Company to give up the line from Suez to Bombay. In doing so, we cannot agree with those who attribute to the East India Company an indifference as to the important objects to be obtained, and, much less, a desire to impede the accomplishment of those objects. On the contrary, the East India Company offered to make considerable pecuniary sacrifices in order to retain the present arrangement, and to contribute to a direct branch establishment from Singapore to Australia, in connection with the other arrangements as they now exist. Still we believe the opposition of the East India Company was founded upon a very mistaken estimate of their own immediate interests, and that the best interests of the empire at large were not sufficiently borne in mind. Moreover, as their present contract with the Government will last only until 1852, it was very doubtful policy, even in the narrowest view of the subject, to object to an arrangement now which at so early a period can be completed without their concurrence.

The only ground upon which the East India Company based their opposition to the plan, was that it would be injurious to the efficiency of the Indian Navy:—“The Court frankly admit that their chief anxiety, upon the main question involved in this correspondence, arises from the conviction that the continuance of the Bombay and Suez line in the hands of the East India Company is essential to the efficiency of the Indian Navy. . . . The value of that force to the empire of India has been so frequently manifested and acknowledged, that the Court would merely advert to that point as now, more than ever, deserving of consideration, with reference to the extension which has taken place in our line of coast on the North West.” No one will deny the importance of the Indian Navy to the interests of the empire at large, or will refuse to acknowledge the essential services which it has often performed, and at no time more than during the war with China. But we think it must be obvious to all, that no more imperfect arrangement could exist than to employ a portion of a navy, on which reliance is placed for actual service in case of need, in another service, which at such a moment, less than at any other time, could be dispensed with. It is not, surely, to be said, as the arguments of the East India Company would lead us to infer, that if disturbances were to break out in any part of India requiring the use of the full naval power of the Company, the mail service between Suez and Bombay must be suspended in order to place those steamers at liberty for other service; and that at a moment when rapid and regular communication would be of more importance than at any other time. The slight-

est consideration will show how incompatible the one is with the other—the service of the Post-office with the more legitimate objects of a State Navy. The whole of the argument of the East India Company is based upon the erroneous assumption of the compatibility of the two services. But even were the views of the East India Company correct in this respect, we think there can be no doubt that the proposal of the Peninsular and Oriental Company involved considerations more than sufficient to induce them to make the supposed sacrifice.

As it is, it would, however, appear that the only way of getting over the difficulty that is presented by the East India Company, during the short unexpired period of their contract with the Government, will be to establish a branch line from Australia to Singapore, under some temporary arrangement, until effect can be given to the far more complete and comprehensive plans proposed by the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company. What is taking place on the Western coast of the United States, should convince the British Government, and especially the East India Company, that no effort must be spared to make our means of intercourse with the East as perfect as possible. In this view of the matter, there are political and commercial considerations which should overbalance, in the eyes of the East India Company, those which they urge in reference to the Indian Navy.

#### SINISTER SIGNS.—A COMING WAR.

DEEP gloom, the forerunner of darkness, begins to overshadow the political world. A few days ago there were reports of a change of ministry in Hesse Cassel, and of the probable restoration of concord between the Elector and his subjects; thus stifling that germ of a European quarrel and of more revolutions which were sprouting from their protracted contest. Yesterday we were informed from Berlin of October 22, "that the prospects of reconciliation between Austria and Prussia are again disturbed. Austria rejects the proposal to submit the affairs of Hesse Cassel to a congress of princes. *Military movements have again commenced.* Prussian troops are said to have left Erfurt for Cassel, with orders to occupy the military road through the Electorate. The Bavarian troops have approached closer to the frontier."

On Thursday the *Times* startled us with an announcement that the Cabinet meeting, held on Wednesday, referred to the protracted quarrel in the North of Europe. "The Cabinet," it said, "which would not otherwise have assembled till the 6th of next month, met yesterday at a very short notice, on a question of considerable urgency. The disgraceful conduct of Prussia in helping to protract the Schleswig-Holstein war, not only in spite of a treaty of peace with Denmark, but actually under cover of the treaty, and by means of it, has led to a very natural—we might almost say legitimate—consequence. The Governments of Russia and of France have jointly proposed to the Government of this country, that the three Powers shall peremptorily require Prussia to fulfil her recent engagement with Denmark, and withdraw the support she still continues to give to the Schleswig-Holstein army. In the event of Prussia hesitating to comply with this reasonable demand Russia and France are prepared to back it, not by an unprofitable march to the territory under dispute, but in a way more congenial to their tastes—by an invasion of the Silesian provinces of Prussia on the one side, and the Rhenish on the other. In the first instance, however, they require the co-operation of England in the remonstrance with Prussia, without which they are not prepared to move at present. The answer of the British Government may perhaps be anticipated. It declines to join with Russia and France in such a note as we have described, but proposes that all three Powers shall separately remonstrate with Prussia on her present breach of faith with the Danish Government. Whether their triple remonstrances will be of more avail than all the rest of the diplomacy that has been lavished on this affair, is a question on which we will not venture to give an opinion."

The news had an unfavourable effect on our funds; and, in spite of the fact, that the payment of the dividends must now set loose a large sum of money to seek investment, the funds fell  $\frac{3}{4}$  per cent. In France, too, the money market has commenced a downward course. A change has begun there in the Ministry, which looks like a triumph of General Changarnier over the President; rumours are afloat of the resuscitation of the party of the *National*, headed by General Cavaignac, resolved to win back power by siding with the ultra-republicans, and betokening coming contests in France. But the substantial fact, that the three great Powers—Russia, France, and England—are at variance with Prussia, and that two of them propose, in case she hesitates to comply with their wishes, to occupy one her Rhenish and the other her Silesian provinces, overbears all rumours and all other considerations, and fixes at once the public attention on the possibility—on the alarming probability even, if such a course be entered on—of Europe becoming the seat of a most disastrous and universal turmoil.

That the continuance of the war between Denmark and the people of Holstein is a disgrace to the great Powers who have long ago assumed the control of all Europe, and taken on themselves the responsibility of preserving peace, we have more than once asserted. That the King of Prussia is more to be blamed than

the other Powers for the continuance of this unmeaning contest—that he has fomented the war and prevented an accommodation for his own purposes, is the assertion of the partisans of Denmark; but there is no other proof of that than the fact that many of his subjects, being Germans, have taken part in the contest, and he has not adopted the same view of its relations as the other Powers. Surely some means might have been found, were this representation strictly correct, to have settled such a petty squabble without taking Prussia into consideration; and if she had then chosen to begin a war rather than allow of a reasonable peace between Denmark and the Duchies, the European world would have supported the Powers in putting her down and bridling her for ever.

We have never shown ourselves friendly to Prussia—we have continually spoken of her as grasping and unprincipled—we have expressly, on more than one occasion, discountenanced the idea of looking to her for the political improvement or regeneration of Germany; but her defaults, though they were ten times greater than they are, can never afford the slightest justification of the other sovereigns, should they turn on their ally and convert the petty squabble between Denmark and the Holsteiners into a contest with her, certain to end in a European conflagration. Their conduct hitherto, in regard to this affair, has brought them much into discredit with all reflecting, peace-loving men, and they will never be forgiven should such be the result. They hold power—they are still respected and preserved, because they are supposed to be the means of keeping peace and maintaining order; and if, in addition to their other many faults, of which the world begins to be keenly sensible, they commence war and introduce amongst us all its terrible licentiousness and woes—if they bring about general turmoil—stopping trade and arresting the hand of prosperous industry—setting the people to slaughter each other, and starving them from leaving the ground untilled—they will sign their own doom. If Europe be convulsed by their means, they will be destroyed.

We are happy to believe that from this ultra policy England holds aloof. She has forfeited, we think, some reputation—certainly she has lost popularity—by helping to extend the power of Prussia over Germany, and she would be undoing all that was done at the settlement of Vienna, she would lose all that Waterloo gained, were she now to countenance a movement that would dismember Prussia, giving France the control of the Rhine, and planting Russia in Germany, with the command of the Oder and of all the Baltic provinces of Prussia. Nor would the French, however much they might be gratified by extending their boundary to the Rhine, see with satisfaction the advance of Russia into Germany. A large party in that country would regard the movement as the advance of despotism against liberty, and they would not hesitate to risk again, as they have risked before in their own cause, all the horrors of a revolution. From the war, Red Republicanism would arise more fierce and destructive than ever, and France would pay for the dynastic ambition of its President with its internal tranquillity.

Latterly the Revolutionists have been slumbering. We have heard of vague rumours of meetings at London and other places, to tell their numbers and suggest their plans; but we can imagine the delight with which they will receive the news of Russia and France attacking Prussia. Their emissaries will immediately communicate with Rome, Vienna, Paris—with every capital of Europe, to prepare their followers for the event; and the first news of the march of armies, which would be a death-knell to the hopes of all the peaceful and prosperous people of Europe, would call into life and activity their destructive zeal. The injury they have already done, by making mankind prefer dull despotism to their sanguinary disorder, called liberty, is irreparable. To them we are mainly indebted for the ascendancy which the old and stupid tyrannies of the Continent have recovered; but the mischief they have already wrought is as nothing to that they will work, if a quarrel amongst the conservators of peace places in their exasperated hands the chance even of recovering power.

We deeply regret to see an extreme policy coming into operation. In the pride of his heart at temporary success, the Infallible Man at Rome has recently been mapping out England into Bishops' sees. It is plainly perceived that a rival church, which teaches nearly all the principles on which he founds his power, cannot be relied on to resist his arrogant pretensions; and men naturally exalt the civil power into an undue supremacy, or take refuge in irreligion, to be saved from so humiliating a reflection as that he should have power over our country. Now we have Russia and France uniting to threaten Prussia with dismemberment if their particular views are not acceded to, and their extreme pretensions threaten us with renewed revolutions.

As our Peace Societies seem inefficient to their end, it would seem right that the moderate and peace-loving men of all parties and all countries—the masses of industrious merchants, manufacturers, and artisans, whose welfare is bound up with peace—the shipowners, who dread the interruption of trade and the capture of ships—the peaceful working men, who will be forced, by conscriptions and landwehrs, by militia laws, and perhaps pressgangs, to quit their remunerative employments and their quiet homes, for the horrible and degrading occupation of war,—it would seem right that all the peaceful, prospering, trading, industrious world,

whose best interests are at stake, should now bethink themselves whether they can find no better security for the continuance of peace than confidence in Czars and Presidents—in ambitious soldiers and irresponsible statesmen. A firm and avowed determination on their part to have peace preserved, at whatever cost to the pride of diplomacy or the dignity of thrones, might do more to turn the gloom which begins to deepen on the world into light than all the conferences of monarchs and their ministers. That peace should be preserved is, we believe, an almost universal resolve; and if it be expressed, it will give unrivalled power to any statesman who should make that principle the guide of his policy.

#### THE DANGERS OF THE EXHIBITION

We are disposed to regard with much favour every one who contributes to the success of the Great Exhibition, though it be only by warning us in time that some dangers impend over it. He enables us, if possible, to guard against them. Such is the case with a Philosopher,\* who draws, he says, his knowledge from the Book of Nature, and tells us that what follows "is one of her great laws, verified by the concordant testimony of all ages throughout the world.—'Great, sudden human gatherings, domiciliated in a confined space, are liable to be followed by pestilence in the compound ratio of the diversity of the sources from whence they come, the diversity of breed, habits, and diet, and the length of their sojourn in such given confined space,—a liability scarcely to be obviated at all, if such accumulation be protracted, and, even if continuing for a few weeks, demanding special regulations for the public health.'"

If this statement express a general fact, there is enough in it to demand attention, and the illustrations supplied by the author show pretty clearly the origin and the extent of the danger. He says, addressing Prince Albert:—

You have near you good and truly learned men, who will refer you to the historic proofs that the most widely-spreading and most exterminating pestilences of Great Britain followed upon, and were traceable to, sudden and enormous influx of foreigners. But if you will judge for yourself, read the reign of Edward III. and there you will trace the tragic consequences of such influx at the founding of the order of the Garter. What followed at Windsor? That freak of Edward cost England more than a third of its population.

Again, in 1483, Richmond brought with him, to deliver his country from a so-called tyrant, a motley army of aliens, and thus introduced the Sweating Sickness, developed in the invading army soon after their landing at Milford Haven. In some towns one-half of the population perished by it.

Does Nature, in her above-recited law, make any exceptions? Does she except those brought together from distant parts to join in the praise of the Deity or in the defence of religion? Ask History again, and she will answer you. Whether of yore, in the temple of Solomon, or in our own time, on the plains of Hindostan, such popular collections, ever found to be dangerous, have demanded classification and division by the Jews in the one instance, and secured the intervention of the Indian Company in the other.

The piety of the good St. Louis availed not to save him and a great part of his army from a similar catastrophe. If you require modern documents for modern calamities, you can have them from your India House, from your Board of Control, from your Army and Navy Medical Boards. That the sun shines at mid-day is not clearer to our minds than the embryo danger of your monster Exhibition, however noble that monster is intended to be. It is that same law which influenced the introduction of the pestilence of 1483, 1485, 1506, 1517, 1528, 1529—a law as clearly definable as that two multiplied by two make four.

The writer further states that a "pest developed itself at the great conference at Marpurg, between Luther and Zuinglius, on transubstantiation;" that the rate of mortality was increased in London by the influx of foreigners in 1814; and at Paris in 1803, when a miniature exhibition took place. Thus brought before the public, this matter must be fairly looked at, the source of the danger examined, and, as far as possible, obviated.

The writer properly says, that the Government, which has been at least instrumental in promoting the Exhibition, "is unquestionably bound to look to the means of accommodation, and see that the number does not exceed it." "Having, by public invitation to all and divers nations, adopted a course which will bring the contingencies and liabilities to pestilence on a footing with those of Ostend and Venice, when those ports were the great marts of the world, and with Malta in our own time, it becomes the Home Government to take all precautions against the calamities which history has indicated; for never was there any human gathering in either of those places, or in any other town in the history of the civilised world, near so extensive or so motley as that which London may expect for 1851." The public writers who have joined in recommending the project are bound to look at the subject under this point of view, and we must state openly that if we thought the writer's fears were well grounded, we should deem it our duty to oppose as strenuously as we have hitherto supported the coming Exhibition.

It is obvious that the character of the classes coming together, and their object, will not be without its influence on the general health. The cases alluded to by the Philosopher, were congregations of comparatively filthy men, indulging themselves, and having with them vassals and retainers who indulged very largely in debauchery; or they were half-brutified soldiers, destitute of all accommodations, and given in no ordinary degree, when opportunity afforded, to rapacity and licentiousness. Nor were the

troops of pilgrims and religious controversialists, who have carried pestilence in their train, very different. At least they were ignorant of the consequences of assembling a multitude of persons, and took no precautions against disease. All the multitudes referred to were gathered together by ignorant superstition, or they met for purposes of contention, strife, or debauchery.

The persons who visit the Exhibition will, with few exceptions, be the select of all classes in the civilised world. The most intelligent artisans and mechanics—the most skilful manufacturers and machinists—the most advanced of artists—the most learned and intelligent of the aristocracies and princes, from all quarters, will be our visitors in 1851, and the naturally chosen representatives of all the world. They will come for the enlightened purpose of gaining and imparting instruction and improvement; they will be, as the rule, orderly, well-conducted men, given to run about and see everything that is to be seen, and not given to low debauchery. They will not remain long in a place, and certainly will not neglect to spread themselves to some extent over the whole country. In general, too, they belong to the opulent classes, and will bring the means of paying for all necessary comfort and accommodation which will surely be provided. These circumstances are so different from the circumstances of the gatherings quoted by the Philosopher, that we have no reason to suppose that our Exhibition will have the same disastrous effects as they had.

The number of persons expected to visit the metropolis in 1851 is calculated at 1,000,000—an immense number—but let us suppose that it is 2,000,000. They will not be here all at one time. They will be spread over the three months during which the Exhibition will be open. Scarcely one of the vast multitude will increase the dense population of Bethnal green or Ratcliff highway. They will all go to the West end of London, or will seek temporary habitations in the airy suburbs around the metropolis, all of which have, or will have, ready communication established with Hyde park. If we suppose a third of the 2,000,000, or say 600,000, visitors to be here at one time—which is probably a far greater number than will actually be present—will not the healthy and airy suburbs of Camberwell, Peckham, Clapham, Kennington, Bayswater, Hampstead, Highgate, Islington, Clapton, Hackney, Bow, &c., &c., be able to find comfortable quarters for the large army? We believe they will, without being as closely packed together as is the habitual condition of the inhabitants of Spitalfields and Tothill street.

This is not a case of forced quartering of soldiers or of invading pilgrims, but of opulent people, who are invited, and whom other opulent or well-to-do people will be glad to receive. Thousands, looking to the visitors as a source of profit, will readily give up their houses to them. Many families will leave town to make way for the strangers; others will send away their children; and whatever number of strangers may arrive, the population will at no time be equally increased. With such a disposition to accommodate, and with such large means of comfortable accommodation as exist in our vast outstretched suburbs, there is not the slightest reason to dread the consequences predicted by the gloomy imagination of the Philosopher.

The principle on which his observations are founded, and from which all the pestilence in question flowed, was crowding too many people in an insufficient space. "The most afflicting and appalling mortalities experienced throughout Europe have arisen from over-animalisation, inseparable from immense accidental influx." "It matters not how large the habitation or how small the hovel, or how large the town or how small the village, if both are over-animalised, the solitary hovel is less dangerous than the metropolis." In the over-animalisation, therefore, lies the source of the danger; and had our Philosopher borne in mind the peculiarities of London, as compared to ships and barracks, where a more than the average freedom from disease prevails, or as compared to Paris, to Vienna, to Edinburgh (the old town), to Milan, perhaps, and to several of the palatial and yet half-deserted cities of Italy, he would have found that their normal condition is that of a more intense over-animalisation than will take place in our metropolis with the addition of a whole million of strangers. The almost sporadic mode of building our towns, which we inherit from our Saxon or Friesland ancestors, has expanded London over comparatively an enormous space, contributed, perhaps, to bring into use our wonderful means of communication, and given our metropolis a power of accommodating, without injuring health, an immense additional number of people.

A paragraph lately went the round of the journals, and must therefore be familiar to the public, which is very instructive on the subject. It appeared in our journal last week, and was entitled the "Cities of Paris and London Compared." By this paragraph it appears that the total surface of London is 210,000,000 square metres, while that of Paris is 34,379,016 metres; and the population of London is put down—which is somewhat too small a number—at 1,924,000, that of Paris at 1,053,879; and it is roughly stated that in London there is one inhabitant to every 100 metres, and in Paris one to 34; or one inhabitant of London has three times as much space as one inhabitant of Paris. To make the population of London, therefore, as dense as that of Paris, it must be increased threefold. Or, instead of an addition of one million, it might have an addition of four million; or collect in

\* The Philosopher's Mite to the Great Exhibition of 1851. Houlston and Stone-man, Paternoster row.

the same space six million people to bring it, in respect to animalisation, to the normal and not usually unhealthy condition of Paris.

There is another test. In the figures given in the paragraph, the number of the inhabitants and the number of houses do not correspond. There are not 34 inhabitants to each house in Paris, according to the figures, but 51. We conclude, however, that the mistake is in the number of houses, which is put down at ten times less in Paris than in London. Taking, therefore, the proportions stated in the paragraph—7½ inhabitants to each house in London, and 34 to each house in Paris—it is perfectly clear that we might double the population of the metropolis and find more house accommodation, without being so crowded and so much animalised as are the people of Paris in their habitual condition. We conclude, therefore, that the apprehensions of the Philosopher, all resting on the single fact of over-animalisation, are not justified, and that there is not the slightest reason for the alarm which he, aided by some Protectionist journals, has endeavoured to propagate.

How the increase of people is to be supplied with provisions and water, is for us a more important matter than how they will be accommodated with lodgings. But we believe that both may be safely left to private enterprise and private interest. There can be no question but that the multitudes of shopkeepers and merchants, each one vying with another, will obtain the requisite supplies of food of all kinds. Nor can there be any doubt but that the water companies will then be prepared to increase to the extent necessary the supply of water. If it were otherwise, if such an influx of people should be supposed to make it necessary for the Government to interfere with the supply of either food or water, or even make it necessary for the Government to look after the health of the people, instead of merely informing them, so far as they may require information, how they may take care of themselves, we should regard the moral results of the Exhibition as more likely to be disastrous than beneficial. For all the reputation that may accrue to our country from the Exhibition, for all the impulse it may give to civilisation, we would not exchange the reliance on private enterprise to supply us with food and water, which is now the privilege and the right of the inhabitants of the metropolis.

#### THE DUTCH NAVIGATION LAWS.

FROM the remotest periods navigation has had great influence on the policy of nations. The Phenicians, the Pirate or Sea Kings of the North, the hardy mariners who discovered America and were the pilots to all the European emigration to the new continent, are three examples, at periods remote from each other, which illustrate the general fact. Mariners are not only the means of communication between distant nations, they give help to foreigners in war, and carry on their commerce in peace. More than any other class of persons, they are the connecting links between near and distant nations, and convey the feelings and interests of one to the other.

It is obvious that any regulations for the agriculturists of the United States must be of much less immediate interest to us than regulations for their marine. We are not surprised, therefore, that the recent alterations in our Navigation Laws, some of which are actually made contingent on reciprocal enactments in other countries, should have had the effect of speedily inducing other nations to look at their own Navigation Laws, and modify them in the sense that ours have been modified.

Though we have attained great maritime eminence, in spite of the well-meant, but nevertheless unsocial and injurious, laws which impeded our trade, when it was ascertained that they were a complete failure, and there had arisen a necessity to alter them, other nations could but profit by our experience, and alter their laws too. Our predominance as a maritime nation, meeting the vessels of all other nations in all the parts of the world, constrained them to follow our example, and the change they have almost immediately made in their Navigation Laws is another example of the influence which navigation has over the policy of nations.

May we not add, too, that shipping is that part of society which is the most removed from the control of legislation—that part, therefore, which is most certain to be placed first and immediately under the influence of natural laws, to be regulated by them, and to lead the way in obtaining equal and universal freedom. The maritime nation that attempts to put fetters and restrictions on its shipping, is soon taught its error when its vessels come into competition with shipping free from restriction; and this circumstance, the influence of which we felt through the vessels of the United States before we altered our laws, is now making its influence felt in other nations.

In our journal of the 14th ult we gave, from a correspondent, a complete outline of the new laws which were begun in Holland almost as soon as the agitation here against the Navigation Laws acquired the characteristics of success. Though the laws were passed when we referred to them, the time was not fixed for their coming into operation, which was to be fixed by the Executive Government. September 15 for the kingdom of Holland in Europe, and the beginning of the ensuing year in her colonial possessions, were sub-

sequently appointed. Already, then, other nations enjoy all the advantages these new laws will confer on them in Holland, and will enjoy them in the Dutch colonies after the close of the present year.

The alterations made refer to ships, duties, and colonies. With some slight exceptions, such as the coasting trade and fishing, the shipping of all nations which treat the shipping of Holland on the same footing, will have equal privileges with Dutch shipping; thus throwing open a protected trade. Hitherto, while few or no differential duties have existed on commodities, the products of different places, all imported and exported goods were subject to ten per cent. higher duties when conveyed in foreign than when conveyed in Dutch vessels. On grain, the advantage bestowed on Dutch vessels was 2f per last of 30 bushels. These duties will now be equal for all vessels.

The tonnage duties on Dutch vessels is 45 cents. per ton of 1,000 kilogrammes the first voyage, and 45 cents. per ton at the beginning of every subsequent year. The tonnage duties, which were higher for foreign vessels, are henceforth to be equal for all vessels, and it has been proposed, with some prospect of success, that tonnage duties shall be altogether abolished. The Dutch papers express a hope, too, that the rates of pilotage will undergo revision. So far as shipping is concerned, all the existing legislation in favour of Dutch ships is done away, and all goods imported directly from the Dutch colonies, the importation of which was hitherto confined to Dutch ships—except refined sugar, molasses, and tea—may now be imported by ships of all other nations, which will also be allowed to liberate their cargoes on entrance, when composed of goods free of duties, a privilege heretofore confined to Dutch vessels.

As to duties, the duty on tea was levied in three modes, according to the place it came from and the manner of importation. It is now reduced to one equal duty of 20f the 100 kilogrammes, payable on importation. The import duties on the chief materials for ship-building, on anchors, coals, and machinery, are reduced generally to one per cent. *ad valorem*. The object of these reductions is evidently to enable the Dutch shipping to compete successfully with all the shipping of the world.

To attain the same end, foreign-built vessels have been admitted to registry in Holland on a payment of 4 per cent. *ad valorem*. Foreigners, too, may be captains of such vessels; and foreigners who have had a fixed residence for one year in Holland, may obtain the registry of such vessels, and are in this respect to be considered as inhabitants of the Netherlands. This liberal regulation has, we apprehend, been brought about by the superiority of the English in the building and managing steam vessels, and the regulation is probably made to facilitate the use, already common, of British-built steamers on the waters of Holland, and the employment of British engineers and others to manage them.

But the most important change in duties is the suspension of all shipping duties on the Rhine and the Yssel, and the total abolition of all transit duties. For the commerce of Germany, and all the interior of that part of the Continent, this will be eminently advantageous. It has been forced on the Dutch by the extension of the railway system in Belgium, which threatened to deprive Holland of the transit trade. Belgium will be forced, as a measure of self-defence, to make its navigation as free as that of Holland; and the world will derive benefit from the competition of states, as it derives benefit from the competition of individuals.

To the colonial trade of Holland the shipping of other nations having colonies will henceforth be admitted, on the same terms as the shipping of Holland is admitted, to share in their colonial trade. The object of the new law is to obtain for the Dutch flag in foreign colonies, and insure for the foreign flag in the Dutch colonies, equal advantages to the national flags. That will throw the colonial trade open to our shipping. The coasting and fishing trade, however, of the colonies are secured to their inhabitants or to the Dutch; and the colonies, which seem hitherto to have imposed duties on imports for their own purposes, are henceforward to refer all such duties to the home authorities. In the Dutch colonies in Java, for example, different duties are payable on goods imported, as they are the produce or manufacture of Holland or of other countries, and in these duties no alterations have been made, but a hope is held out that they will be altered. Under the restrictive colonial system of the Dutch—the whole trade of her Indian possessions having long been monopolised by one company, and carried on in Dutch vessels—her colonies have not thriven, and the competition they have experienced from our possessions has made them sensible that they can only expect improvement from setting the colonial trade free. Most probably the interests of the colonists will, ere long, bring about an equalisation of duties in the colonies on the produce of all nations.

Competition is manifesting its beneficial effects everywhere. Competition has made the sagacious Dutch place the shipping of all other nations on a fair footing with their own, and competition has abolished the transit tolls, and will soon make Belgium and France follow the example of Holland as to shipping. Between Holland and the Hanse Towns, having at their command the Elbe and the Weser, there is already a generous rivalry, and their united competition must, ere long, bring all Germany over to the side of free trade. By the alteration of our Navigation Laws, exemplifying the principle stated at the outset, the policy, first of the United

States, next of Holland, speedily of all Europe, and finally of all nations which have commerce or colonies, will be influenced, and the free trade we have established will, partly by the instrumentality of our shipping, be made the rule of all the civilised world.

#### IMPROVEMENT OF CRIMINAL LAW.

WE are not without hope that the Frimley burglary, followed by murder, will have several good effects. The unusual—we are happy to say, for the credit of England, the very unusual—nature of the occurrence has caused great alarm and has excited corresponding attention. If the lives and properties of the gentlemen and clergymen of England were not in general very completely protected, the burglarious invasion of one house, and the death of one clergyman, would not excite so much surprise and consternation. If burglars, besides being in the habit of breaking into country mansions that have generally one or two male domestics, were in the habit of taking life, instead of fleeing with alarm whenever discovered, the lamentable occurrence at Frimley would have been no novelty, and would have been thought less of than a murder in Ireland. While the alarm at the occurrence is really a testimony to the habitual security enjoyed against such attacks, it seems likely to be followed by the great advantage of very forcibly directing public attention to the efficiency of our police regulations, and the whole system of our criminal jurisprudence.

We may also remind the public, great as has been the alarm, that the death of Mr Hollest was not one of those cold-blooded murders which affrights us at the criminality of our common nature. It was not a treacherous administering of poison in an hour of confidence, like the diabolical deed of Tawell. It was not a deliberately concocted strangling of a sweetheart. It was not a planned murder, perpetrated in disguise by a man familiar with the habits of his victims, and almost daily in communication with them, like the crime of Rush. The crime planned and contemplated was robbery, but undesigned murder was the consequence. In the facts of the case there is criminality enough, without exaggerating the unanticipated result into the magnitude of one of those fearful crimes which make every man shudder, and against which the law can scarcely supply a safeguard.

Already this great offence, in conjunction with others, has received the attention of one high judicial authority. The Recorder of Birmingham, Mr M. D. Hill, in his address on the opening of the Borough Sessions there, yesterday week, thus alluded to it. After referring to a burglary with violence, recently perpetrated in Birmingham, where a well-organised police exists, the honourable and learned gentleman said:—

We shall be reluctant to excuse ourselves on the plea, unfortunately but too well founded in fact, that at the present moment the land is rife with crimes evincing a degree of ferocity and a defiance of the law which we had fondly hoped were not characteristic of our age or country. In Surrey, the home of a clergyman has been violated and himself murdered, and in the adjoining county of Kent the houses of ten clergymen have been robbed. The importance of these offences will expand to our view when we reflect that they have been committed upon a class which both deserves and enjoys the respect and affection of the community, and which is never obnoxious to those prejudices which not unfrequently place one order of men in hostility with another. We may, therefore, be assured that these offences must be the exponents of a far greater number than have ever been brought under our notice. What has produced this sudden development of wickedness is not, as far as I know, understood. It is plain, however, that far more must be done for the repression of crime than we have hitherto accomplished, before we can reflect with any satisfaction on the results of our labours.

In these remarks, however, Mr Hill appears to us rather to forget the caution habitual to judicial minds. From one or two acts of violence he infers a "sudden development of wickedness." Supposing the ten robberies in Kent to be as is asserted—and we believe they rest on no other authority than that of an anonymous letter-writer in one of the morning journals—they have not all been committed within this day or two. They are spread over a considerable time; and, supposing them all burglaries, it is only in consequence of a particular class being attacked—ten clergymen robbed—that can give them any very great degree of importance. Ten burglaries in the large county of Kent is not an alarming number. Far from the inhabitants of the county, however, sharing Mr Hill's alarm, we are assured, by those who live in some of the least protected districts, that they have not been less subject to alarm for a long time. Corresponding, too, rather with the general state of the county than with one or two exceptional acts of plunder and violence, our journal stated last week, that at the Michaelmas Quarter Sessions for Somerset, Mr W. Miles, M.P., the chairman, stated that a general diminution of crime had taken place throughout the county. Last year 740 persons were committed for felonies, this year there has been only 588—a diminution of 152. A material diminution, too, had taken place in the "graver offences." Mr Hill began his charge, too, by stating that there was a steady diminution in the number of offenders apprehended and brought to trial, not only in the town of Birmingham, but in the country at large. The learned Recorder seems, therefore, in the passage above quoted, to have caught a portion of the exaggerating spirit of the caterers for the journals, rather than to have spoken in the calm and sober temper that befits a judge.

The learned gentleman, being so sensible of the increase of crime, naturally proposes a plan which he thinks may check it,

not struck out in the heat of the moment, but which for years has occupied "no small portion of his thoughts." The subject is of such pre-eminent importance, and the authority of the learned gentleman deservedly so great—though it be slightly vitiated by the exaggeration we have noticed—that we must lay the plan before our readers. Mr Hill said:—

It is notorious to all the world that a numerous class exists among us known individually to the officers of justice as persons who follow crime as a calling, and who have no other means of subsistence than the remuneration which belongs to their nefarious course of life. For a time, not unfrequently extending over several years, they follow this calling with impunity, because no opportunity has been found to bring home to them any particular act of crime. That they must, of necessity, commit offences daily, is just as well known to the police as it is known to us that the passengers whom we meet in the streets must daily eat and drink, although we do not follow them to their homes, and are not able to aver that they have taken food of any particular kind or at any particular moment. . . . What I would propose is, that when by the evidence of two or more credible witnesses a jury has been satisfied that there is good ground for believing, and that the witnesses do actually believe, that the accused party is addicted to robbery or theft, so as to deserve the appellation of thief, he shall be called upon in defence to prove himself in possession of means of subsistence, lawfully obtained, either from his property, his labour, or from the assistance of his friends. On the failure of such proof, let him be adjudged a reputed thief, and put under high recognizances to be of good conduct for some limited period, or in default of responsible bail let him suffer imprisonment for the same term. And as in matters of such moment it is always advisable to proceed with great caution, I would, until the experiment has been tried and found successful, confine the operation of the law to persons who have already been convicted of a felony, or of such a misdemeanour as necessarily implies dishonesty in the guilty party, as, for instance, obtaining money or goods under false pretences. As the testimony against the accused would only amount to a presumption of guilt, so it should seem but reasonable that such testimony might be met by a counter presumption, arising out of the fact, that his wants did not place him under any overwhelming temptation to commit the crimes in which he was supposed to be engaged. By this course of proceeding, he would be relieved from the danger of undue embarrassment in his defence. A party in the enjoyment of an honest means of subsistence can have little difficulty in proving the fact. Doubtless a law so framed would leave some thieves still at large, because it would be too much to assume that none are in the habit of stealing who have other sources of maintenance, yet it would argue very little knowledge of the predatory class not to see that such a provision would enable the ministers of justice to withdraw from society nine-tenths of the criminals who now roam at large.

Almost all such plans look well as they are proposed, and that almost all of them have turned out bad upon trial, is the testimony of crowds of objectors to almost every part of our system. That is a *prima facie* reason for suspecting and closely scrutinising every such plan. If it will not prevent crime, why should we give trouble and annoyance to the officers of justice, to juries, and the parties suspected, and put the public to expense? It is frequently, we are afraid, though it ought never to be, forgotten, that all such plans are *per se* evil, and are only to be tolerated—whatever may be the delight of the imagination in concocting and the hope of approbation in proposing them—when it is quite certain that they lessen some greater evil. We regret to have to repeat such a trite truth, but it is necessary, in discussing this subject, never to lose sight of it.

Mr Hill's proposal, besides the evils inherent in all such plans, would create a new crime. It does not merely forbid or punish theft; according to it, not to be in the possession of the means of the subsistence will be a crime. That is the gist of the offence created—the fact to be proved, one way or the other. The man is suspected, and believed to be addicted to robbery; but if he can show that he possesses the means of subsistence—for how long a time Mr Hill does not state, whether a day or a month—he will be discharged. If he cannot show this, he is to be put under high recognizances or imprisoned for some limited period. Apart from the vagueness of such a description, it would increase the number of crimes on the statute book; and one of the strongest objections made at present to our criminal jurisprudence is, that it turns too many actions, perfectly innocent of themselves, into crimes. As poverty already suffers here much more than its own inherent punishment, to make the destitution, perhaps momentary, of a suspected man a crime, would certainly add to the moral evils of poverty, and might increase the temptation to get unduly the means of subsistence.

Mr Hill infers that destitution supplies the temptation to commit crime, and raises a presumption against the suspected man. The suspected man might show, he says, "that his wants did not place him under any overwhelming temptation to commit the crimes in which he was supposed to be engaged"—a principle that might have saved Mr Sirrell from suspicion, and would exonerate Macguire and almost every member of the swell mob in the kingdom—a principle that would give license and encouragement to the bold plunderer, seeking or living in luxurious enjoyment, and fall heavily on those whose wants were extremely small. Poor prowlers about stores and docks might be reached by such an enactment; but burglars—men who empty silversmiths' shops of their contents,—men who clear out bankers' safes—and all their confederates, would be no more restrained than at present. The measure, evil of itself, would not do any equivalent good. If it were, as Mr Hill supposes, "to enable the ministers of justice to withdraw from society nine-tenths of the criminals who now roam at large," while it would not sensibly diminish the temptation to commit crime, it would compel a wonderfully enlargement of the gaols, and a corresponding increase of the gaol population; consequences, as we already find it extremely difficult to dispose

of our criminals, worth more consideration than Mr Hill has given them.

To the enormous increase of power which such a provision would give to the police, to the professional zeal they would display in taking up suspected persons, to the wrong they would necessarily do, "inflicting destruction on the innocent," some of our contemporaries have called attention, and we need not go over the same ground. To place a man, once convicted of an offence, under an exceptional law, as is recommended, supposes that human jurisprudence is perfect, and forbids every act which ought to be forbidden, and forbids none which ought not to be forbidden. Were that so, a perpetual exclusion of men, once criminal, from the rest of society—penning them apart—might be reasonable, could it be practicable from their numbers; but, under an imperfect law, to doom a man for life to exclusion from all communication with honest men, is only to create and perpetuate a distinct race of criminals at war with society. The rule in France, once a convicted felon, always a felon, is an effectual bar to every felon's reformation, and his return to an honest life. Experience does not justify the plan of nourishing in the midst of society a marked band of perpetual outcasts.

Mr Hill, in the following observation points out the principle, of his plan. He says—"If a man can be secured from embarrassment in his defence, no ground will remain why we should forbear from calling on a party to defend himself against a charge arising out of a course of conduct any more than from a charge arising out of a particular act or acts." That throws down the barriers between crime and innocence. They will no longer be distinguished by tangible and certain acts, which contradict some positive and well-defined rules; but by a multitude of acts, each, perhaps, innocent of itself, which others may interpret erroneously or maliciously. In private life, indeed, the basis of all our judgments of others ought to be, and generally is, their course of conduct. But precisely because our moral opinions are formed from a multitude of acts, and carry with them, in our approbation or disapprobation, a reward or punishment, there is no occasion for the law to sit in judgment on a course of conduct. That would be doing necessary work twice over, for the people cannot be prevented from doing it. The distinction, we apprehend, between the moral oversight we all maintain over each other, and the oversight of the law, is, that the latter shall be limited to certain definite acts, which we agree to place under its dominion, while the former is general and cannot be limited. To extend that dominion, which implies specific rules and specific actions, to a course of conduct, seems to confound things essentially distinct, while it would convert the law into an intolerable inquisitorial tyranny.

We have no hope that any improvement can arise from Mr Hill's proposition; nor have we much hope that the improvement of criminal jurisprudence can come from members of his profession. In common with him, they "deeply venerate the principles of our jurisprudence." For them, in common probably with him, the "sudden development of wickedness" will principally mean "defiance of law;" and, in common with him, we are afraid that, regarding the law as the perfection of reason, they suppose the gist of offences is less a violation of laws of nature than of the laws of the land. We can comprehend and pardon their professional zeal. That each man should prize above everything his own occupation, is such an admirable means of making us contented in our respective spheres, that we are more ready to admire the veneration of lawyers for jurisprudence, than regard them as authorities for what jurisprudence ought to be. In fact, they are rather notoriously bad legislators, except as they adapt some new measures of detail to legal details already in existence.

It is to be inferred, from the failure of all our schemes of punishment, that we now require to find out some principle and follow some method which lies beyond the law; and that principle professional men, enamoured of the law to which they are wedded, are not likely to find out. They are thoroughly convinced that the principles of our jurisprudence are excellent, and we know nothing more fatal to improvement than such a conviction. To suppose that all is known which can be known concerning crimes and jurisprudence, is fatal even to inquiry. Particularly in this case, in which the question is to correct human fallibility, we are not likely to be successful by relying on human pride. Self-satisfied conceit seems the very concentrated essence of the frame of mind which requires to be corrected. Till the public cease to trust lawyers implicitly on such a subject, and till they look beyond the principles of our jurisprudence for a remedy, there will be little rational ground for hope that our laws will increase our security by lessening our crimes.

#### THE NEW STAMP ACT.

The following notice from the *Times* suggests one of the chief causes of the deficiency in the revenue of the last quarter, and also the probability that in the current quarter the same source will be more productive than was expected. From what we already see, the changes introduced in the New Stamp Act, are likely to exert a more remarkable and beneficial influence than was expected by its most zealous supporters:—

"It has been already stated that great activity has prevailed at the Office of Stamps and Taxes, at Somerset house, for the last month, in preparing to meet the demands that were expected from the alteration under the New Stamp Act for deeds, leases, transfers, agreements, and other stamps, reduced under the new scheme of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, which has given so great an impetus to legal business throughout the United Kingdom. The demands for stamps under the new act have been so great for the country districts that the Commissioners are still obliged to keep the *employes* in full work from 9 a.m. till 9 p.m. in what is called the 'dry department,' in stamping the numerous parchments sent in. It will be at least another month before the quantity required to be completed can be transmitted to the parties. In London there have been upwards of 1,000,000 stamps already delivered to the different solicitors, law agents, &c. The average number of postage stamps sent to the post-office is 12,000 per week, besides those for the country."

## Agriculture.

### RENTS AND REVALUATIONS.

FARMERS and landowners having now become convinced of the folly of expecting a return to "protection," and a great many of both classes, having become satisfied that protection was never of much use to them, are regarding, with more of purpose and earnestness than heretofore, the economical condition of their farms, and the existing relations of landlords and tenants. That such condition and such relations will be very generally found to be unsatisfactory and untenable to a degree neither class will readily or at once admit is certain. In the mean time, farmers are expecting and demanding reductions of rent; and there can be no doubt that, all else remaining the same, and prices having become permanently lower than when rents were fixed—and fixed in reference to a higher range of prices—the case for reductions of rent becomes a very strong one. At the agricultural meetings of the present autumn and elsewhere, tenant-farmers are beginning to speak out on this point and on allied topics, with a decision they have never before exhibited. They also constantly refer to the increased value of the landlord's income, by reason of the low prices of all articles of necessity and convenience. On the other hand, landlords no longer shrink from attending these meetings as they have done for the previous two years, and many of them fully acknowledge the necessity for some revision of their existing contracts with their tenants. For instance, at the Leominster Agricultural Society, the Vice-President of the society, a tenant-farmer, said:—

No class of people in the country are more benefited by free trade than the landlords. If a gentleman calls in his steward or housekeeper and examines his bills, he will find that he saves 50 per cent upon the articles which are consumed in his establishment. In sugar, tea, candles, &c., there is a difference of at least 49 if not 50 per cent. in favour of 1850. A great reduction has also taken place in the prices of mercery and drapery goods; cotton prints which, 12 or 13 years ago, cost 10d and 1s a yard, can now be purchased at 2s the piece; and I state upon the authority of a highly respectable draper in Hereford (Mr Pember) that good calico, such as gentlemen use in their establishments, is selling at 2½d a yard, which, 25 years ago would have cost 1s or 1½d. Look also at the reduction in the cost of clothing. About sixteen years ago I gave 28s in London for a hat; now I get one for 3s 6d; a pair of trousers for 12s 6d, and a coat for 23s, instead of 31 8s, as I formerly used to pay. I maintain, then, that the reduction in the price of these and other articles is at least 40 or 50 per cent; and such being the case, I hope that a good, kind, and honest feeling will prevail between landlord and tenant, and that the difficulties of the latter will be met by a permanent reduction of rent, instead of temporarily returning 10 per cent., which I look upon as a very prejudicial system.

And the reductions in the cost of living here alluded to are undeniable, though not perhaps quite so great as the Herefordshire tenant-farmer would make out. That speech, however, drew from Lord Bateman a statement of the "way in which he meant to enable his tenants to meet the times." The plan he intended to adopt was this:—

He was making a thorough valuation of the whole of his property—whether he should be a gainer or a loser he could not then tell; but after the valuation should be completed, it was his determination to fix the rents at such amounts as should be equitable with the present prices. He had entrusted the valuation to a man competent to the duty, and one who was no free trader; in many cases that gentleman assured him that he should have to make a reduction in his rents, and this he was prepared to do. If the landlords of England generally would do as he was doing—and he believed that in many cases they were ready to do so—viz., examine thoroughly into the state of their farms with the view of ascertaining that the tenants did not pay more rent than they ought to do, and see that the buildings were in such a state as to enable the farming operations to be carried on in a proper manner, without any waste of the valuable article of manure—if these things were done, and the landlord and the tenant co-operated and went hand in hand, it was his opinion the latter might be enabled to meet the times.

So the Marquis of Granby, at the Waltham (Leicestershire) Agricultural Meeting, told the farmers that his father the Duke of Rutland had appointed two local surveyors to revalue all his tenants' farms, and took credit for the appointment of surveyors acquainted with the district, instead of valuers from other localities. The obvious remark on this is, that if the revaluation is offered as a concession to the demands of the tenantry for reduction, there should have been a valuer appointed by and acting on the part of the tenants, in conjunction with the landlord's valuer; but if—as is probably the case—the revaluation is made in order to correct accidental inequalities in the rents charged to different tenants, and to enable the proprietor to judge, from the report of his own valuers, how far it will be prudent on his part to resist or grant demands for reduced

rents, there is no reason why the owner should not solely select his valuers. And other proprietors have stated the intention of having their estates revalued.

Again, there is the Marquis of Exeter, who offers to each tenant, who may have demanded any reduction of rent, the option of a revaluation or to give up the farm. But by far the major part of the landed proprietors, who take any heed of their tenants' complaints about rent, meet them by making temporary abatements on their last half-year's rent, usually 10 per cent. The Marquis of Westminster, however, is stated to have "lowered his Cheshire rents 10 per cent, and presented his tenants with 5,000l worth of bone manure." This seems to be a permanent reduction of rent. Now a simple revaluation of an estate, for the purpose of ascertaining the present value to let of each farm, is clearly inadequate to the exigencies of the times, and in most cases will operate unfairly against the good farmer, who has cultivated his land well, and improved the value of the farm; while the inferior farmer, whose land is utterly unimproved, will probably obtain such a reduction of rent as will enable him to drag on his miserable system a short time longer.

Present moderate prices, with the prospect of their continuance, form only one of the elements in estimating the amount of rent which may be fairly fixed on the actual occupiers of farms. What is required, is a comprehensive review and consideration of all the circumstances of an estate. And in undertaking such a review, the proprietor must make up his mind whether he means to regard the amount, security, and permanence of his income as matters of primary importance; or whether he is prepared to regard his income as of secondary concern to the maintenance of a system of yearly lettings, a large head of game, and the like. It will be necessary, also, to consider the case of each tenant who farms indifferently, and to see whether he does so from sheer poverty or want of skill, or whether his farm may not be too large for his capital, or the deficiencies of buildings, drainage, and so forth, such as to render it difficult to farm well without a preliminary improvement of the farm by permanent outlays, which it is never the tenant's province to make, and which, as a yearly tenant, it would be most imprudent in him to undertake. There are many farmers now farming badly, and consequently paying their rent—be it high or low—with difficulty, who would manage one-half, or even two-thirds, of the extent of land they now occupy, with comparative ease and profit; while there are others who would be able to cultivate well their present farms, if such farms were put into a permanently good state, as regards buildings roads drainage and the like, by the landlord. In short, there are very many farmers who have capital sufficient to farm less land than they now occupy, and very many more who have the requisite capital to farm their present land, but not enough to farm it profitably and likewise to execute landlord's improvements.

On most large estates there are some tenants who have farmed well, and improved their farms by permanent expenditure, and on whom it would be the height of injustice to fix rents simply with reference to the present actual value of their farms. Yet, on a revaluation the surveyor can only value each farm as it stands. These tenants would usually be quite satisfied to continue in their occupations, and probably at their present rents, if leases of 21 years, without the absurd restrictions and game reservations which leases of former times contained, were granted; and in some places liberty to remove fences and trees, to break up second-rate pasture land, and perhaps some extra buildings for stock would be required.

The smaller and inferior tenants should also have the security of leases, as soon as their farms had been adjusted to their means of cultivation.

A rather extensive and personal inspection of the agricultural districts of England recently made has satisfied us that, looking at the actual conditions on which yearly tenants hold their farms, the defective state of farms for want of outlays of fixed capital by the proprietors, and the very prevalent practice of undertaking a farm too large for the farmer's capital, present rents cannot continue to be paid under the existing arrangements between landlord and tenant; but we are also convinced that, by judicious management, moderate outlays on the part of landowners, and the granting leases to tenants able to manage their land, there need be little, if any, permanent reductions of rent. In some of our finest districts, where there is much grass land, rents, however, have been somewhat unduly enhanced by the competition of men who have undertaken to farm with small capitals, relying on the profit to be derived with small cost from the grass land; and the comparative value of grass land, either for feeding, rearing, or the dairy, has of late years been much reduced by the increased and increasing application of arable land to such purposes. In short, what is now wanted is not a mere revaluation of farms or temporary abatements of rent, but an entire re-adjustment of the contracts between landlords and tenants for letting and hiring farms, excluding therefrom all that semi-feudalism of which they have hitherto so largely partaken, and adopting the sound, safe, and practical principle, that a contract for a farm is simply an exchange of equivalents.

HIGH FARMING IN SUSSEX.

Of all the ridiculous distinctions attempted to be drawn, nothing can be more absurd than that taken by the Protectionists between high farming and good farming. Thus Lord Stanley, at the Bury Agricultural Meeting, told the farmers that, if it did not pay to farm well, it would not pay to farm ill; yet, in the next breath, he told them that he was not going to recommend "high farming." The fact is, that certain persons who have introduced or practiced some new methods in husbandry, and whose names have been very often before the public, are sometimes supposed to be representatives of the high farmers, and their particular practices are assumed to be exclusively "high farming;" whereas high farming is nothing more than very good farming. Mr Rigden, of Hove, near Brighton, Sussex, is well known as a breeder of Southdown sheep; and the report of a visit to his farm,

read by Mr David Milne, before a meeting of the East Berwickshire Farmers' Club, shows that high farming is carried on by Mr Rigden as it is by the best farmers of most districts. The report contains many details which, though probably interesting to a Scotch audience, would scarcely be so to persons acquainted with English farming, and such we omit. It appears that Mr Rigden's farm is 740 acres, held under a fourteen years' lease, and consists of light land not requiring to be drained. The average produce of wheat on this farm, in the hands of the previous occupier, was 28 bushels per acre—above the average of the county—which Mr Rigden has raised to an average of 36 bushels per acre. This bespeaks good farming. The rotation, previously to his occupation, was a six shift, by which two-sixths were in grass, one-sixth in green crop, and the other three-sixths in corn. The farm slopes to the sea, and is exposed to S. W. gales, but derives no advantage from seaweed, none being thrown on this part of the coast. Mr Rigden has one-half of the farm in green crops, and the other half in corn.

Some of the land is made to bear three crops in two years; thus: tares, rape, and rye are sown in the autumn, which are cut or fed off in April. The ground is thereafter ploughed up, to be planted with potatoes, turnips, or mangold in May; and in autumn wheat is sown.

Acres		Average produce per acre	Average price for in 1848-9
350	250 in wheat .....	26 bushels .....	4s 6d per qr
	in 40 in barley .....	40 do .....	3s do
	60 in oats .....	60 to 80 do .....	
	20 in mangold wurzel .....	30 tons	
110	12 in white turnips .....	10 do	
	12 in swedes .....		
	6 in carrots .....		
	50 in potatoes .....	{ 150 to 300 .....	12l to 15l per acre
	10 in cabbages .....	{ bushels	
	53 in clover .....	2 tons	
	50 in ryegrass and mixed .....		
240	20 in sainfoin .....		
	30 in hay .....		
	10 in lucerne .....		
	50 in tares followed by rape .....		
	30 in peas .....		
40	in permanent pasture .....		
740			

My oats and barley (Mr Rigden observes) generally follow wheat. I am aware this system is open to objection; but as a general rule on the Southdowns, we cannot grow good barley after turnips. Our custom is to plough the wheat stubble as soon as possible after harvest, and to plough again when we sow barley about the end of March or beginning of April. The land in my occupation is better calculated for wheat than barley.

Like most of the south farms it is neither incumbered nor protected by any fences.

The stock kept on the farm was as follows:—

- 350 Southdown ewes,
- 20 Southdown rams,
- 150 Teggs (or female lambs) a year old,
- 21 Milk cows,
- 12 Heifers of different ages,
- 28 Farm horses,
- Pigs and poultry (a few).

The amount of capital expended by Mr Rigden on his farm is about 12,000l.

In explanation of this amount of capital, Mr Rigden had to pay at his entry, according to the custom of Sussex, for "mondments" and "half-mondments," consisting of manure made but not applied by the off-going tenant, and for applied manure where its efficacy is considered not to have been exhausted. Ploughings are also paid for. At this time Mr Rigden considers that if he now left his farm he would receive, under the custom for such particulars, about 3,000l. Next he subsoiled nearly the whole of his land to the depth of twenty inches; he also chalked a large portion of the land, and he has incurred considerable expense in forming a superior flock of Southdown sheep; for instance, he has given as much as seventy guineas for the use of a ram.

All these things have necessitated the outlay of so large a capital. He is fully repaid for his outlay on his flock by the high price he obtains for his ewes. The common price of ewes in Sussex last year was from 25s to 30s each. The prices Mr Rigden realised were as follow:—

	£	s	d
150 Wether lambs, sold at an average 20s.....	150	0	0
55 Ewe ditto, at 21s.....	57	15	0
20 Ram ditto, at 70s.....	70	0	0
10 Oiler rams, at 15l.....	150	0	0
12 Ewes, at 3l.....	36	0	0
355	767	15	0

The ewes are sold when four years old, replacing them with an equal number of stock lambs. The wether lambs are sold as stores in August and September; the ewes, rams, and ram lambs are sold by auction on the farm about the end of September. The yearly produce of lambs is about 400, of which 250 are sold. When the cold weather sets in, the breeding ewes are brought into yards at night and fed with hay, feeding them on rape and turnips during frosty weather being apt to produce abortion. Each sheep clips about 4 lbs of wool. The cows are fed entirely in the house, being turned out for two hours daily, in the winter into the straw yard, and in the summer into a meadow; they produce on an average 2½ gallons of milk a day, which is sold in Brighton for 10d a gallon. The cows are curry-combed and brushed daily. They are fed on a variety of green food, roots, and brewers' grains; six are fatted off every year, and their places supplied by heifers bred on the farm. The rest of the calves are sold, except when the demand for milk is dull, and then some of them are kept and reared. Few pigs are kept, which we think a mistake; but some people in Brighton are allowed to occupy an old quarry on the farm, where 70 or 80 pigs are kept, the litter being supplied from, and the manure brought back, to the farm. Seven of the twenty-eight horses kept are constantly employed in taking produce into Brighton and bringing back manure. The labourers receive good wages, from 10s to 13s a week.



The following is the yearly outlay in this management :—  
The following table, made up from the accounts of the year ending Martinmas, 1849, shows the chief items of expenditure and receipt :—

YEARLY EXPENDITURE.	
Rent .....	£ 1,300
Taxes .....	150
Tradesmen's bills .....	353
Sundries (including insurance, losses, &c.) .....	100
Wages to labourers and servants .....	1,690
Stable-yard dung, purchased .....	£583
Night soil .....	50
Guano, bone dust, &c .....	43
Brewery grains, for feeding cows .....	110
Seed account .....	150
	4,529
YEARLY RECEIPTS.	
Wheat sold .....	
Barley do .....	
Stock and wool sold .....	
Milk from 21 cows .....	
Straw sold .....	
Potatoes on 50 acres, sold on ground .....	
Clover, tares, and rye, sold as green meat .....	
Hay and oats sold .....	
Pigs sold .....	

Of course the foregoing table does not represent the full amount of produce actually raised; besides what is sold, much is consumed on the farm. The value of the total produce, on an average of the last two or three years, Mr Rigidon estimates at 9l per acre.

The items of receipt were stated verbally by Mr Milne to the club, but he received them on the express condition, that they were not to be published, but taking the yearly produce as stated at 9l per acre, it will give a total of 6,360l, or a gross profit of 1,941l.

COTTON CULTIVATION IN JAMAICA.

At a meeting of the gentlemen who have united for the purpose of testing the profitable cultivation of cotton in the island of Jamaica, held in the directors' room of the Jamaica Bank at Kingston, on the 25th of last month, a report was adopted, of which the following is the most important portion :—

The committee appointed by the meeting of gentlemen interested in the formation of a company to test the cultivation of cotton in the island of Jamaica on the 26th ultimo report as follows :—

1. That in terms of the instructions of that meeting, they endeavoured to collect subscriptions for the object, and that the sum now subscribed is 1,000l.
2. That they have considered the suggestion referred to them, as to the eligibility of granting a portion of the subscriptions to small proprietors by way of encouraging the experiment in as wide and varied a field as possible, but they are unanimously of opinion that it would be inexpedient, and be attended with many inconveniences to do so, and that the whole attention of the association should be limited to the cultivation of one property.
3. That they appointed a sub-committee of their own number to inspect certain properties in the neighbourhood of Kingston, to report on one which they might deem altogether most eligible for the objects of the association. That this sub-committee, after personal inspection and due consideration of circumstances, reported, that on the whole, they deemed Pembroke Hall the most suitable, and your committee, therefore, recommend that property as the proper object of the company's attention, and that a lease of three years should be taken, terminable at the option of the association, on three months' notice at the end of the first or second year.

Several letters, addressed to the committee by Mr James Sullivan, who has been experimenting on the growth of cotton, were then read, The annexed passages are from them :—

After a drought of sixteen months in this district rain fell about the middle of May, but I had to wait for labour until they planted their own grounds. In June and July I planted eleven acres of cotton; one part is in kidney cotton, and it is certainly a very splendid and luxuriant sample. The most favoured of the sprouts are near six feet high, planted in the first week in June last. I have had no trouble in establishing this species, and from the produce of a tree in the garden about nine years old, I consider the wool a very valuable article of commerce, though not so silky as the green seed kind. I also planted the first and second green seed in separate pieces, and I found them both very delicate in their growth, and difficult to establish. . . . The eleven acres I planted and now growing cost me 24s per acre, that is in falling trees, cleaning jungle, looping and heaping, and burning, clearing away old negro houses and useless old cross fences, repairing the outer fence with stake and rail and penguins, and then cleaning and moulding. I superintended this work myself. Had I delegated my authority to others it would have cost me upwards of 30s per acre. I must continue to dig holes with the hoe. I cannot use the plough, on account of the stumps. . . . On the sugar estate the expenses will be comparatively small, and if one can be obtained it is far more profitable to any other description of property for establishing an experimental cotton plantation. . . . There is no danger of a failure from the climate and soil on the south side of this island, and native labour can be had at times for 1s a day for men and 9d for women. But continuous labour will not be required for cotton after the first three or four months, except in the picking season, and that being very light work they will prefer it to the weary and laborious operation of the hoe and the bill; and I expect some African immigrants, when I shall then hope to plant cotton on a larger scale, and make it my exclusive occupation.

In respect to the supply of labour, Mr Sullivan points out that, though it is scarce in some districts, it is abundant enough in others. He says :—

I live within two or three miles and a half of Lime Savanna, Four Paths, and Smoky Hall districts, in which are located about four thousand negroes, and I have the greatest difficulty in getting hands at 1s per day for men, and 9d for women. Their work is generally very unsatisfactory. They work six, sometimes six and a half hours a day, without using much exertion. The strongest men and women will not do more than the weakest ones, and if you cut them down even 1d per day for short work, they will not return to your work. The greatest part of these people never work for any one; they cultivate their own grounds, and live in idleness the greater part of the year. Compare this statement with the fact, that last Saturday I mentioned this to a gentleman living by Porus, who assured me that from that township he can get more labour than he requires for sixpence a day, and that he at times gets it at fourpence-halfpenny a day. At this place, Porus, there are located about three

thousand people; it is on the confines of Clarendon and Manchester. The land is poor, clayey savanna soil, and the patches that were formerly good are now worn out and exhausted from repeated cultivation, so that these people must labour for their bread, unless they get it by stealing and petty traffic. Whitney and Clarendon Park are the only two estates in that vicinity which are supplied with labour from Porus. If you get Clarendon Park estate as one of your experimental cotton plantations, there is no danger that you will fail for want of labour, and you will get it cheap.

THE SUGAR DRYING MACHINE.

(From the Tobago Chronicle.)

CONSIDERING it our duty to place before our readers an account of any and every improvement which the experience and ingenuity of scientific men and of practical agriculturists have produced, in reference to the cultivation of the cane, and the manufacture of its juice into sugar, as recorded in the colonial or English papers; we have peculiar pleasure in stating that the great desideratum in the manufacture of sugar seems at last to be attained, by the perseverance and skill of Mr Drumm, of Barbadoes, a name with which most of our readers are familiar, in consequence of the extracts copied into our columns from the Barbadoes papers, recently, relative to the progress he had made in bringing his sugar drying machine to perfection. In our present number we have copied the remarks of the *Barbadoes Mercury*, on Mr Drumm's application of centrifugal force to the drying of sugar, and also a copy of the bill passed by the Legislature of Barbadoes, securing to him a certain per centage on the cost of the machine.

The invention is one of very great importance to the agricultural interest, but it is considered doubtful whether her Majesty can give her assent to the bill. We do not profess to know much regarding the laws affecting patents, but we feel a lively interest in everything that holds out the slightest prospect of benefiting these colonies, and therefore hope for the best. A party in England, Messrs Rotch and Finzel, have secured a patent for a machine of similar construction—so we are led to understand—but the exorbitant charge they demand for the use of the machine would almost debar the producer from availing himself of the use of an instrument which could not but prove of immense advantage to him. If there is any imperial law which secures to patentees in England, not only some reasonable remuneration for the expense, trouble, and anxiety consequent upon the introduction into the world of some valuable improvement, but also the power to demand something tantamount to a prohibition of its use, and thereby render the benefit to the parties chiefly interested—the public—negatory, then that law should be, with as little delay as possible, amended, not only for the benefit of the producer, but also of the consumer and the patentee. The interests of the colonist cannot surely be so grossly neglected, even by the present Government, for any considerable length of time, as to permit our rivals in Cuba and Brazil—who labour under no necessity to submit to exorbitant charges—to benefit from the invention of Mr Drumm, and at the same time virtually deny to the West Indian planter the use of an instrument of such importance to him. Should the bill passed by the Legislature of Barbadoes not receive the assent of Queen Victoria, we can only conclude that the best interests of these colonies will be sacrificed to secure the support of the refining interests at home, who are, it is generally believed, staunch Free-traders. But Mr Drumm's application of centrifugal force to the drying of sugar is of very great importance to the British consumer of sugar. The advantage conferred by the machine is not one-sided—in favour of the producer only—it is one of immense importance, in a variety of ways, to the United Kingdom. It has been generally admitted that, from various causes, the sugar shipped from these colonies to the mother country loses about 10 per cent. in weight on an average during the voyage. It would be impossible to ascertain the quantity of sugar lost by drainage, and pumped into the sea during the voyage home for many years past. By way of illustration, however, and with a view of aiding our readers in forming something approximating to a correct estimate of the loss hitherto sustained, in consequence of the imperfections attendant on the manufacture of sugar on estates, we subjoin a statement of the quantities of sugar delivered in Great Britain and Ireland, during the year 1849, from the Mauritius and British West India colonies, with the loss of weight incurred during the voyage :—

Mauritius .....	cwts 897,720
British West Indies .....	2,840,531
Total .....	3,738,251

As the above quantity was delivered, after undergoing a drainage of 10 per cent., the quantity actually shipped from the colonies was 4,153,612 cwts, causing a loss to the proprietors of 415,361 cwts, which, if valued at 16s per cwt., exhibits the enormous loss to them of 332,288l on the crop of 1849.

Supposing that the enormous quantity of sugar lost—a loss that would have been averted had Mr Drumm's drying machine been completed, and in operation on the sugar-producing estates—had been saved, and the duty thereon duly paid, the imperial revenue would be increased by 249,216l, calculating the duty at 12s per cwt. The shipowner also is deeply interested in this matter; he is a loser of about ten per cent. on his freight; but should he feel satisfied with the present rates, notwithstanding the decrease in the weight of his cargoes alluded to, he could afford to reduce the weight of ten per cent., or nearly 6d per cwt, on the rate of freight generally paid by the planters of this island. The gross value of the sugar lost in the ocean last year, in consequence of its being imperfectly manufactured, would command in the English market little short of three-quarters of a million sterling.

For an evil of such magnitude it appears that Mr Drumm has at last succeeded in finding an effectual remedy.

## SPIRIT OF THE TRADE CIRCULARS.

(From Messrs Carlisle, Capel, and Co.'s Circular.)

London, Oct. 22, 1850.

The arrival of the July mail shortly after the date of our last with accounts from Canton to the 22nd, and Shanghai to the 12th of that month, gave a stimulus to our market, and relieved it from the drooping and inactive state which we then noticed as prevailing. The absence of shipments from Canton, and the apparent indisposition to open the market at prices so far beyond those current on this side, gave confidence to buyers, and an active inquiry for common teas, partly speculative, and partly from the trade, was the immediate result.

The demand for common congous raised prices fully 1d to 1½d, and almost everything offering up to 1s 1d was taken freely at the beginning of the month; the blackish leaf kinds up to 1s 2d were also largely dealt in; but latterly there has been less buoyancy, and rather a difficulty in effecting sales at similar rates, which is attributable, partly to the disinclination of the country dealers to pay the increased rates, and partly from the desire of most of the importers to close accounts in the finer descriptions: in these the transactions have been to some extent, and at varying prices: a good demand has existed for Liverpool, but owing to the disposition to realise, the dealers from that market have been able to effect their purchases in some instances as low or lower than at any former period. The accounts just received from China must be looked upon as favourable for this class, but the stock still left in first hands is too large to admit of any material improvement in prices. Scented teas, owing to the small quantity, have been in active request, and the recent arrivals of orange pekoes have been taken off at extreme prices; for capers the demand has not been so active, except for the dull leaf descriptions, which are much wanted. In flowery pekoes, souchongs, and Oolongs we have no alteration to notice.

The green tea market has been better supported than last month, and as all the supplies of country kinds are now arrived, purchases have been made with more confidence. In hysons the common and medium descriptions have commanded full prices, but for the finer sorts the demand continues limited. In young hysons the late heavy arrivals have rather depressed the market, and but little has been done. Gunpowders have been sold to some extent, but prices of the finer descriptions have been very low, whilst the medium sorts have continued to bring comparatively high rates. In imperials business has been to a limited extent, but the low point to which our stock is reduced has enabled holders to obtain full prices. In Canton made teas a good business has been done at about last month's quotations for good common sorts, and at an advance of ½d to 1d on the low qualities.

(From Messrs Wm. Jas. Thompson and Sons' Circular.)

London, Oct. 22, 1850.

The social prosperity of the country is becoming more manifest daily, and this is particularly evinced by the large deliveries and increasing consumption of those articles of colonial and foreign produce which are chiefly used by the mass of the people, while the improved position of the manufacturing districts, and the gradual diminution of party and political differences, give every reason to hope for results as beneficial to the community at large as they are desirable for our own commercial advancement.

The sugar market has experienced a great improvement; the large and increasing deliveries, the diminished stocks, the reduced imports, together with the favourable character of each successive advice from abroad, have inspired holders with confidence, and have produced a considerable demand at rapidly increasing rates, both on the part of speculators and the trade. Importers also not having too freely brought forward their goods, prices about 1s 6d for the low and medium qualities above those of last month have been obtained; while for the grocery descriptions, which have been very scarce, still fuller rates have been given. A large amount of business has been done in foreign, by private contract, both for parcels afloat and landed, and the current rates shew a similar enhancement. The demand for coffee has considerably increased, and both the trade and speculators have transacted a very large business, at still further enhanced quotations, while the large deliveries on the continent, coupled with the demand there for America, have induced shippers to operate to a very considerable extent. In the beginning of the month, owing to the unfavourable accounts received of the crop from Java, quotations continued to advance, and a very large business was for a time being done at a rise of 3s 6d to 4s for plantation Ceylon, from this, however, it declined 2s to 3s, but having again rallied, prices may now be regarded as being fully 5s per cwt above those ruling at the date of our last. For the native kinds there has been an animated inquiry, chiefly of a speculative character, and although some slight fluctuations were at one time observable, the article is now quiet at 57s, being 1s to 1s 6d below the highest point touched, and 8s advance on the previous month's currency. In foreign, transactions continue to be upon an extensive scale, and several cargoes for the Mediterranean have changed hands by private contract at rates showing a rise of about 3s per cwt. Rice is rather firmer at former prices. The demand for spice has been extensive, and very full rates have been obtained, excepting for black pepper, which exhibits a decline of ½d per lb. The general improvement in spice has to a great extent been owing to the result of the Dutch company's sale, which went off spiritedly. Holders of saltpetre have established an advance of 6d per cwt, but there are not now sellers at this increase. The quarterly sales of indigo commenced on the 8th and terminated on the 17th instant; prices ruled for Bengal at 10d to 1s per lb above July rates, and 6d to 8d per lb for Madras, and 10d per lb for Kurpahs. About 5,429 chests were sold out of 17,100 chests brought forward. In tea there has been a good business done, and prices of most qualities have materially advanced. Common congou is now readily saleable at 1s 0½d per lb. A sale of Java tea has just taken place, and has attracted much attention; the entire quantity offered has found buyers at fair prices.

(From Messrs Gibson, Ord, and Co.'s Circular.)

Manchester, Oct. 22, 1850.

The dullness in our market which we noticed in our last circular continued up to the commencement of the present month, when we experienced a revival, consequent on the arrival of the Bombay mail with tidings of the opening of the season with considerable animation, and an advance in all our staple articles; the Calcutta accounts too, being more cheerful, added to this feeling of improvement. Since that time we have had a fair amount of business doing, quite equal to carry off the production, and, in some cases, to considerably reduce our stocks, the aggregate of which are, at the moment, far from excessive. The accounts by the Calcutta mail, to hand yesterday, are confirmatory of those just mentioned, and have further improved the tone of our market, without, however, having produced any decided advance in prices. The China news by the same mail is not satisfactory, and will probably cause restricted operations for the remaining part of this year, more particularly as the shipments already made are very little under those to the same period in last year, as respects shirtings. Generally our foreign trade is in a healthy state, and will undoubtedly be greatly stimulated by the heavy advance which has recently taken place in almost every article of produce. Our home trade has been unusually quiet for some time

past; the stocks held are understood to be exceedingly light both here and in the hands of the country dealers.

The aggregate sales of the month in 40-in. shirtings have been large—considerably beyond the production, and thus reducing our stocks into a narrow compass; in prices very little change has taken place, and we do not, therefore, alter our quotations from those of the previous month, indeed the same remark equally applies to every other article. The purchases made have been (in 40-in. shirting) chiefly for India and China, the greater proportion for Bombay. Our printers have operated sparingly, and our country trade houses still more so. In 9-8 shirtings the transactions have been to some extent at very full prices, on which an advance is now very generally demanded; stocks are light, and the production considerably lessened from what it was some months ago. 7-8th printing cloths have had a fair share of inquiry, but not equal to what is looked for at this season; the better kinds are most in favour, the lighter makes being for the most part neglected; stocks of all kinds are light. Madapolams have gone off as produced at full rates, leaving the market very bare of supplies. Long cloths continue to be the only heavy fabric in demand, and are readily saleable at an advance of 1½d per piece on the rates ruling at the commencement of the month. T cloths are very dull of sale, and do not keep pace in value with the cost of production; the same may be said of domestics, which have also been in very limited request, and that almost exclusively for the lighter makes. A very large business has been done in low jacconets, chiefly for the Bombay market, at rates 3d per piece above those ruling at the close of last month; the stocks, which were then heavy, have been cleared off, and some large contracts entered into. White jacconets, cambrics, and fancy muslins continue neglected. Fustians, owing to the dull state of the home trade, have had very little enquiry.

(From Witherby and Hanson's Circular.)

London, Oct. 23, 1850.

**CURRENTS**—At the date of our last report there had been no arrivals of new fruit. The Nautilus, screw steam ship, arrived 26th ult. in 22 days, and on the 7th inst. the Shark schooner, in 33 days, both from Patras, bringing together 186 butts, 323 carroteels, 343 barrels, and 70 boxes. A cargo has been received at Liverpool. We had received to this date in 1849 about 2,500 tons of new fruit, upon a stock of 2,500 tons of old fruit on 30th September; whilst as yet we have received less than 200 tons of new fruit, upon a stock of old fruit at same date of below 2,000 tons. As, however, more than 25 cargoes are known to be afloat for this port, and several are close at hand, there is little doubt of the respective receipts of both seasons being equalised very shortly. To 30th October, 1849, we had received 20 cargoes, with about 3,000 tons.

The first cargo of new fruit was sold at 45s per cwt, or 3s above the opening price of last season; the second at 43s, the quality uneven, and somewhat foxy. The long absence of arrivals, and the receipt of further exciting news from the places of growth, both as regards extent of rain-damage and advance in prices, have since given a new feature to the market, and led to a brisk demand for old fruit. Two cargoes of Cephalonia were sold last week at 41s, and parcels of Gulph fruit at 40s, establishing an advance of 3s to 4s upon the quotations at the beginning of September. The stock of old fruit now consists of four cargoes of fine Cephalonia, which are not offered for sale.

The London clearances for home consumption from 19th ult. to 18th inst. have been 1,075 tons against 1,010 tons in 1849, 1,215 tons in 1848, and 915 tons in 1847 during the like period. Those at Liverpool, of the four weeks ending 15th inst., shows 390 tons against 445 tons in 1849, and 260 tons in 1848. The latest official returns show a falling off of 1,360 tons in the consumption of the United Kingdom during the first eight months of this year as compared with that of the corresponding period of last year.

It is obvious that the article of currants has assumed a feature quite different from that of last season, and even from what might reasonably have been expected only six weeks ago. The extent of damage to the crop from rain fully bears out the alarming reports received early in September. Whether or not the above deficiency in the country's consumption will be made up by increased deliveries before Christmas will depend upon the prices ruling during that interval; for recent experience proves that an advance in price checks consumption amongst the working classes who now constitute the great mass of consumers.

**RAISINS**—It our last report we announced the arrival of sixteen cargoes of Valencia raisins, and the price to have fallen from 45s, the opening price, to 42s and 40s. Fifteen cargoes have since arrived, making in all thirty-one cargoes against twenty-four cargoes to 22nd October, 1849. Several vessels are daily expected here both from Denia and Malaga.

At the close of last month, in consequence of further unfavourable news from Spain respecting injury to the crop, extensive purchases of sound keeping fruit were made at 40s. Holders consequently demanded 42s, at which a few trifling sales were made: 41s has since been accepted for good fruit, and 40s for tender, of which quality a cargo offered at public sale this day, and taken in at 40s, has been since sold at 39s.

The total clearances of raisins at this port for home consumption from 10th ult. (when the second cargo arrived) to 18th instant have been 1,300 tons against 700 tons in 1849, and 1,000 tons in 1848 during the like period. At Liverpool they present also a considerable increase upon those of September and October 1849, and what is still more novel a feature in the trade, the clearances of raisins at both ports exceed those of currants. This may be attributable partly to the lateness of the arrival of new currants: those interested exclusively in raisins indulge the hope that currants may have lost ground during the year, owing to the advance in prices in spring, and that the public taste may be reverting to raisins. Of this the month of November will afford a fair test.

There has been a short supply hitherto of muscatels, and that of indifferent quality. Considerable sales of sultanas have been made at our quotations. In other raisins no arrivals.

(From Messrs Davison and Gordon's Circular.)

London, Oct. 23, 1850.

**SUGAR**—The expectations which we noticed in our last circular, have been fully realised, a very extensive demand has been experienced for all descriptions, the trade and exporters buying freely, whereas speculators have been large operators. Prices have steadily advanced, and are now 1s to 2s dearer than on this day month. The small quantity held by the trade, and the large consumption going on, together with the great deficiency in the stocks in the kingdom, tends to increase the confidence of merchants and holders. The stock here up to 20th instant shows a decrease of 13,500 tons; as the season advances, it is expected it will be considerably more, and prices continue their upward tendency. The sales made in West India since our last amount to 8,930 hbls and tierces. Barbadoes ordinary to fine yellow, in public sale, brought 36s 6d to 45s 6d, grainy 42s 6d to 46s. St Lucia brown 33s to 37s, grey and yellow 36s to 42s; crystallised Demerara, white, fine and very fine 46s 6d to 49s 6d, yellow 42s 6d; Jamaica good brown 38s to 39s, fair yellow 39s to 40s 6d, and St Kitts low and middling yellow 37s 6d to 39s 6d per cwt. With Mauritius the market has been less freely supplied, as the chief portion of the stock is in second hands, grainy and coloury kinds are the most in request. Only 8,400 bags have been offered, which all sold, yellow and grey 36s to 42s, brown 30s to 36s, very

dark 28s to 29s 6d, grainy yellow 37s 6d to 42s 6d, and brown 33s 6d to 38s 6d per cwt. Several parcels out of second hands have been sold at higher prices. The supply of Bengal continues good; the demand, however, being fully equal to it, the whole of 30,300 bags, offered at public sale, found buyers, white Benares and the grainy kinds continuing scarce, have fetched extreme prices, whilst other kinds have gone off with spirit. White Benares 39s to 45s 6d, soft yellow 37s to 42s; Mauritius kind, dry and strong 39s to 43s 6d, soft ditto 38s to 41s; Date kinds, yellow and grey 36s to 41s, good and fine dry brown 33s 6d to 36s 6d, fine grainy yellow, like Cossipore, 49s to 50s; Dacca 44s to 45s 6d. Dhobah No. 2 48s to 49s, Seebpore 43s to 43s 6d, Khaur, common brown 31s to 32s, and Tirhoot 33s to 34s. By private contract about 10,000 bags Khaur have been sold at 30s to 31s. Madras has also met with much attention, and higher prices are paid. The public sales have offered 19,700 bags: the chief portion consisted of the better descriptions, which met a very active sale at high prices, good and fine grainy white 45s to 48s, extra fine 50s to 52s, yellow 40s 6d to 48s, soft yellow Mauritius kind 36s 6d to 40s, fine white, like Benares, 45s to 47s, and ordinary to good darup brown and yellow 31s to 36s. In other foreign East India descriptions a large business has been done, and prices are much higher. The public sales have offered 18,350 bags Manila, clayed 36s 6d to 38s 6d, and Muscovado 30s 6d to 35s 6d, and 900 bags China white 40s to 41s. The private operations are 25,000 bags Manila, clayed at 38s to 39s 6d, and Muscovado at 30s 6d to 35s—1,300 baskets Java at 24s 9d in bond. The market for all kinds of foreign sugar has been very active, both for parcels on the spot and afloat. Speculators and exporters have been large buyers, and the market continues to have an improving appearance, the public sales have offered 1,180 chests Bahia, which were taken in; 100 chests Rio sold, brown and yellow 36s 6d to 38s. 1,980 bags 80 chests Pernam sold, white 43s, brown 32s to 38s, and yellow 39s to 43s. 1,345 hhds 520 barrels Porto Rico sold, yellow ordinary to fine 37s to 44s 6d, and brown 35s 6d to 37s. 8,243 boxes Havana were mostly taken in, yellow 38s 6d to 45s, brown 36s 6d to 39s. 450 boxes white, part sold at full prices. The private transactions are as follows:—38,000 boxes, partly afloat and partly landed at 38s 6d to 43s for brown and yellow, and 23s to 25s in bond. Six cargoes of brown Bahia afloat at 19s 3d to 20s 9d, one deliverable here at 37s 3d. A cargo on the spot, 360 chests, at 38s to 38s 6d. Two cargoes Pernams, 7,000 bags, one at 19s 6d, and the other at 34s. A cargo of white Bahia for Amsterdam at 23s 6d, 250 chests on the spot at 40s to 42s, and a cargo of 250 casks Cuba Muscovado at 39s per cwt. The markets on the continent are in a healthy state, and prices are looking up. The consumption in the Kingdom up to the 5th September, according to the Returns issued by the Board of Trade, shows an increase of nearly 20,000 tons, as compared with that of last year, and the imports a deficiency of 23,300 tons.

COFFEE.—The speculative feeling which we noticed at the close of our last for Native Ceylon continued up to the middle of the present month, a large business was done and prices rose 3s, the highest price paid being 58s for current good ordinary; after that time the demand fell off, and prices have receded to 56s 6d to 57s 6d per cwt. The private and public sales since our last are estimated at 45,000 bags. The trade and exporters throughout the month have purchased very cautiously as other descriptions are much cheaper in comparison. For Plantation, a very active demand was experienced up to the end of the second week this month, extensive sales both by public and private contract took place by speculators and the trade, with an advance of 3s to 4s, latterly importers and second hand holders have brought forward more than the trade can take off, and as many parties became sellers a reduction from the highest point of the market during the month of 2s to 3s has taken place. In all, the public sales have offered 4,180 casks, 4,900 bags, and by private contract about 4,000 casks have been sold. The latest quotations paid were for good and fine bold coloury 70s to 80s, low middling and middling 62s to 61s, fine and fine fine ordinary 58s to 61s 6d, good ordinary grey 55s to 57s, and pea berry 60s to 75s per cwt. Jamaica has met with little attention, only small parcels of odds and ends having been brought forward, which partly sold at former terms. Mocha has been more in request, but owing to the high pretensions of holders only a small extent of business has been done. The quantity offered at public sale was 750 packages, the greater portion was bought in above the market value. A few lots sold at 70s to 75s for middling yellow and brownish clean garbled. Of other kinds of East India the transactions are of a limited character, owing to the small quantity to be met with. 700 packages have been offered, which sold, Madras 60s to 70s, ordinary 50s, and ordinary broken to good ordinary pale from Calcutta 42s 6d to 50s. The private sales are 2,000 bags Java, 50s to 52s, and 1,500 bags Padang 45s to 48s per cwt. The market for foreign continues to have a firm appearance; nearly all the parcels, as soon as offered, have met with ready buyers at very full prices. 7,400 bags 162 boxes Costa Rica sold, ordinary and good ordinary small 48s to 50s, fine ordinary to middling 51s to 56s, and good 56s 6d to 58s; 600 barrels 100 bags Porto Rica and Cuba, and 1,600 bags Bahia were held for higher prices. By private contract 2,000 bags Porto Rico and La Guayra sold at 50s to 54s; 600 barrels African at 47s; 3,000 Costa Rica 54s to 63s 6d; five cargoes Rio afloat, for near ports, at 45s to 50s, and two cargoes St Domingo at 48s per cwt. According to the Board of Trade Returns for the eight months ending 5th September, there is a decrease in the import, as compared with the previous year, of upwards of 4,000,000 lbs; the quantity taken for consumption also shows a falling off of nearly 3,000,000 lbs, and for export of 14,000,000 lbs, the great deficiency being on foreign coffee. The advices from all the continental ports continue of a satisfactory nature.

## Foreign Correspondence.

From our Paris Correspondent.

Paris, October 24, 1850.

It seems that Louis Napoleon's system is to announce his ambitious desires, in order to prepare the public opinion for the continuation of his power as President of the Republic, and even as Emperor, and afterwards to recede, and contradict all the reports to which his own conduct contributed to give rise. His intentions were not enigmatical when he travelled through France with a great pomp, when he gave military banquets and luncheons, when he applauded the cries of "Vive l'Empereur," and punished the soldiers who cried "Vive la Republique." All the Elysée journals contained threats against the Assembly, in case the majority should refuse to grant directly the prolongation of his powers for ten years. But the Elysée has probably recognised that the Napoleon cause was compromised by such a compulsory system. All the legitimist papers had begun direct hostilities to the President, and some of the Orleanist organs were

also unfavourable to him. There were but two representatives in the Committee of Permanence who supported the President; all the others attacked him with great violence, and M. Dupin, the elder, drew out the minute of the sitting of that commission in which a severe blame was reflected on the President.

Last week there was a report of a sort of treaty between M. Thiers, M. Guizot, and M. Berryer. It was said that the burgraves had decided to vote for the prolongation, but the report was contradicted by the friends of M. Berryer and of M. Thiers.

Louis Napoleon, who perceives that his dictatorial and haughty declarations increase the number of his enemies, has modified his tactics. The papers have announced that he would be satisfied with a three years' prolongation. He will accept any commission that will be granted him, and M. Louis Veron, who is considered as his official counsellor, edited in the *Constitutionnel* a leading article, addressed to General Changarnier, who was by turn threatened and flattered. They promised to change General d'Hautpoul, whose hostilities with General Changarnier have been made public, provided the Commander-in-chief of the Parisian army consented to abandon any idea of declaring himself a candidate for the next Presidency of the Republic, and adopted the views and interests of Louis Napoleon.

General Changarnier answered nothing to this threatening article, but there were active negotiations during several days. General d'Hautpoul went to the President with M. Veron's article, and complained of being sacrificed. Louis Napoleon pretended that he had not approved such a publication, though the article had been corrected by M. Fould; it was even promised to him that General Changarnier should be sacrificed, that his command should be divided into three divisions, in order to deprive him of his importance. But the President was at last prevailed upon to yield to General Changarnier, and to sign the nomination of General Schramm, as Minister of War, in lieu of General d'Hautpoul, who is temporarily appointed to the functions of Governor of Algeria. These decrees appeared to-day in the *Moniteur*, and the nomination of M. d'Hautpoul is only temporary, on account of the law which prohibits the promotion of a representative to such functions.

Thus General Changarnier seems victorious, and the President has confessed the superiority of his rival. But I doubt that it will be any thing more than a truce. General Schramm is a brave soldier, who will enforce his own rights as Minister of War, and he will not easily yield to the claims of the commander of the Parisian army, so that the struggle between the Minister and the General will soon be renewed. It is reported that Louis Napoleon waits patiently for that moment, because his intentions are to sacrifice General Changarnier to General Schramm after sacrificing General d'Hautpoul to General Changarnier.

If Louis Napoleon does not obtain his prolongation from the Assembly, or at least from the universal vote, it will be his own fault, as the public opinion is admirably disposed for *statu quo*. The Count de Chambord is every day losing ground, and he has at this moment no chance of success. The private letters from Frohsdorff continue to represent the fusion of the two royal branches as in a very forward state. They say that the Count de Chambord has signed the treaty which was proposed by M. Salvandy, and the Countess de Chambord has adhered to it. According to that treaty the Count de Paris would be adopted as the heir apparent of the crown of France, if the Duc de Bordeaux has no children. But in that case no treaty would be necessary, as the Count de Paris would of course succeed to the Count de Chambord. But if M. de Salvandy is successful at Frohsdorff, he will not easily prevail upon the Duchess of Orleans to sign the treaty, and in France our Orleanists continue to be very adverse to it, because they have recognised the reluctance of the nation for the Bourbons of the elder branch.

In the midst of the political passions which are struggling around Louis Napoleon, there is in the public at large a strong desire to avoid anything which might resemble a revolution, and bring about new political struggles. The traders demand but tranquillity that their business may prosper. The best means for Louis Napoleon to obtain the so-much-longed-for prolongation, is to wait patiently until the end of his Presidency, because he will probably obtain a great majority for his new election, and he may oppose the sovereignty of the universal vote to the constitution which forbids the return of the same President before an interval of four years has elapsed.

The situation of our trade is good, there is a great activity in almost all our manufactures in spite of the apprehensions produced by the approach of the legislative debates. There are but two branches of trade which are suffering at this moment. The manufacturers of Lyons, who had worked so much last year, have received no new orders from the new states, and there are many looms unoccupied. The iron trade is also in a bad situation. It has never recovered from its disastrous state.

The prices of corn continue to be depressed in our markets, and large purchases have been made at the *Halle de Paris* for the account of England. But fine qualities of wheat and flour maintain their prices, and there is now a very great difference between the prices of good and inferior qualities. The low price of bread is indeed a very lucky circumstance for the winter season; but our agriculturists and farmers complain bitterly, and threaten not to sow for next year the same quantities of acres with wheat and corn.

We have received the tables of the Custom House during the month of September, and during the three first quarters of 1848, 1849, and 1850. The duties received in September amount, viz.—in 1848, to 8,733,654f; in 1849, to 10,876,111f; and in 1850, to 11,619,169f. They amounted for the three first quarters, viz.—in 1848, to 62,826,100f; in 1849, to 95,152,863f; and in 1850, to 92,848,672f.

The following are the variations of our securities from Oct. 17 to Oct. 23:—

	f	c	f	c	f	c
The Three per Cents varied for the account from	57	65	to	58	0	and left off at 57 45
Five per Cents varied from	92	85		53	70	& remained at 92 80
The Bank Shares declined from	23	0		0		2300 0
Northern Shares declined from	465	0		462	50	
Nantes	242	50		240	0	
Strasbourg	343	75		340	0	
Orleans	782	50		778	75	
Rouen	620	0		617	55	
Marseilles	172	50		170	0	
Bordeaux	388	75		387	50	
The Central improved	355	0		360	0	

HALF-PAST FOUR.—The Funds were rather buoyant, in consequence of the issue of the new Piedmontese loan, which was quoted from 85f 40c to 85f 35c.

The Three per Cents varied from 57f 60c to 57f 75c; the 5 per Cents from 92f 80c to 93f 20c; the Bank shares were at 2,300f; the Northern shares at 465f; Strasbourg from 343f 75c to 345f; Nantes from 240f to 242f 50c; Orleans at 778f 75c; Rouen at 615f; Havre at 250f; Marseilles at 272f 50c; the Central at 360; Bordeaux at 386f 25c.

News of the Week.

COURT AND ARISTOCRACY.

HER MAJESTY and the Royal Family continue at Osborne. Her Majesty and his Royal Highness remain in strict seclusion.

METROPOLIS.

COURT OF CHANCERY.—There are now two Vice-Chancellorships vacant—one occasioned by the death of the late Sir Lancelot Shadwell, the Vice-Chancellor of England, in August last, and the other by the recent resignation of the Vice-Chancellor Wigram, on account of continued indisposition. It is understood that one Vice-Chancellor only will be appointed to supply the places of the two judges whose offices have thus become vacant. It is expected that the Master of the Rolls, together with the Vice-Chancellor Knight Bruce, and the Vice-Chancellor who is to be appointed, will be enabled to keep down the business of the court, even assuming that the Lord Chancellor will be exclusively engaged in hearing appeals.—Times.

EXTENSIVE ROBBERY OF JEWELLERY.—A large jeweller's and silversmith's in the Strand was entered in the middle of Monday night, and property stolen therefrom to the amount of between 2,000l and 3,000l. The house in which the robbery was committed is on the left side of the Craven Hotel, Strand, directly facing the Golden Cross coach-yard; and belongs to Messrs Clapham and Williams. The hour at which the robbers must have entered is supposed to be about three o'clock, but how an entry was effected there is not the slightest circumstance to show. The property stolen consists of diamonds of great value and other precious stones, which were not set, also a great number of rings and watches. The police are still actively engaged in the pursuit of the robbers, but up to the present nothing has transpired which could enable the detectives, who have the case in hand, to fix upon the guilty persons without running great risk.

LEGAL CHANGES.—We are authorised to state that Mr Baron Rolfe has been raised to the dignity of Vice-Chancellor, in the room of the Vice-Chancellor of England, deceased. This change from a puisne judgeship to the equity court does not increase the Learned Baron's salary, but it gives him higher rank. Besides, the duties of a Vice-Chancellor are less onerous than those of a common law judge, and the expenses of going two circuits in the year, about 500l, will be saved. The appointment will give universal satisfaction; for the Learned Baron's predilections and earlier studies were given to the equity bar. The vacancy in the Vice-Chancellorship, caused by the recent resignation of Sir James Wigram, cannot be filled up without an Act of Parliament, which, it is expected, will be rendered necessary from the vast accumulation of business now in the courts of equity, chiefly arising from the increasing and wholesome practice of filing claims in matters where the slow and expensive process of a bill was necessary.—Sun of last night.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—The return for the week ending last Saturday shows that the deaths registered in the metropolitan districts amounted to 860—a number which, though it indicates a slight increase of mortality on the previous week when it was 839, is still less than the weekly average to the extent of 125 deaths; the average being derived from the deaths of 10 corresponding weeks in 1840-9, and raised in the ratio of increased population. By means of a comparative statement of the 860 deaths, according to the different ages at which they occurred, it may again be shown, as in the preceding week, that an improved state of health exists among the young, but that the middle-aged part of the population begin to suffer more, while the aged die exactly at the average rate of mortality. It appears that there were:—

	Last week.	Average of ten corresponding weeks. (1840-9).
From birth to 15 years.....	347	445
15 to 60 years .....	333	288
60 and upwards .....	168	168

The births of 748 boys and 754 girls, in all 1,502 children, were registered in the week. At the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, the mean height of the barometer during the week was 29.943. The mean temperature of the week was 49 deg. the same as in the previous week, and nearly equal to the average of the same week in seven years.

PROVINCES.

FINAL OPENING OF THE BRITANNIA BRIDGE.—The permanent public opening of the new line of tubes for the down line from London to Dublin, took place on Monday morning, the great structure being now, in all respects, made complete. The deflections were ascertained to be exactly three-fourths of an inch under a heavy load, over the immense mass and area of iron. The deflection at an accelerated speed was sensibly less in the way of undulation or collapse than when the load was allowed to remain at rest in the tube. The heaviest gales through the Straits do not produce so much motion over the extent of either tube as the pressure against the side of the tubes of ten men, and that the pressure of ten men, keeping time with the vibrations, produces an oscillation of 1 1/2 inch, the tube itself making sixty-seven double vibrations per minute. The strongest gusts of wind that have swept up the Channel

during the late stormy weather do not cause a vibration of more than a quarter of an inch. The broadside of a storm causes an oscillation of less than an inch; but when the two tubes are braced together by frames, which is now being done, these motions will be almost annihilated. The daily expansion and contraction of the tubes vary from half an inch to three inches, attaining either the maximum or the minimum at about three o'clock a.m. and p.m.

HEREFORDSHIRE ELECTION.—The election of a member to represent this county in Parliament, in the room of Mr Bailey, deceased, took place on yesterday week, but excited very little interest, as it was generally understood that there would not be a contest. Mr Booker, a gentleman who possesses considerable property in the neighbouring county of Glamorganshire, was duly proposed and seconded. In addressing the electors, Mr Booker assured them of his earnest desire to uphold the principle of protection to British industry, and declared that so long as he remained in Parliament he would never cease to strive for the re-imposition of a protective duty, without which he believed the agricultural interest of England could never prosper. There being no opponent, the high sheriff declared Mr Booker elected.

DIMINUTION OF PAUPERISM IN KIDDERMINSTER.—The state of trade in this union may be judged by the following tabular statement of the number of persons relieved for the half-years ending September 1849 and 1850, in the undermentioned parishes of which it is composed. Rushock is not included, as the return for that parish was not at hand; but, as the number relieved in 1849 was only seven, it cannot largely influence the total:—

	1849	1850
Kidderminster Borough .....	2,388	990
Kidderminster Foreign .....	173	123
Chaddesley Corbett.....	120	80
Wolverley.....	81	110
Upper Areley.....	60	42
Little Mitton or Stourport.....	156	167
Bewdley .....	232	227
Stone .....	61	23
Irremovable poor charged on the union .....	812	648
Vagrants .....	1,675	875
Total .....	5,167	3,191

Showing a decrease of 1,976 individuals receiving parochial relief.

DECREASE OF PAUPERISM.—We are happy in being able to state that at the meeting of the board of guardians on Saturday there was not a single applicant for relief. It is said that such a circumstance has not occurred before since the union has been established.—Sherborne Journal.

SCOTLAND.

RETURN OF CARRIER PIGEONS TAKEN OUT BY SIR JOHN ROSS.—We (North British Mail) have learned from a private source, that on Friday last two of the carrier pigeons taken by Sir John Ross when he left the port of Ayr, and some of which were to be despatched home in the event of his either finding Sir John Franklin or being frozen in, arrived at Ayr, finding their way at once to the dove-cot which they occupied previous to being taken away. The birds, we understand, arrived within a short time of each other, but neither of them conveyed anything in the shape of letter or note of any kind. One of them seems to have had some document attached, but which has apparently been shot away. The time they were liberated by Sir John Ross is of course uncertain, but taking into consideration the well known powers of flight possessed by the carrier pigeon, it cannot be very long since they left our gallant countryman. The distance the creatures must have traversed cannot be far short of 2,000 miles. Sir John Ross, we believe, took five pigeons with him, which, it may be remembered, were stated, in the last accounts received of him, to have been at that time all alive.

IRELAND.

THE NEW PARLIAMENTARY FRANCHISE.—It appears by returns furnished by the clerks of Poor Law Unions in the county of Louth, that the present number of registered voters is but 320, and even this scant constituency is diminished by over 40 "objections" for various causes. The rated occupiers under the new act are set down at 1,923, minus 60 objected to, and 41 since ascertained to be dead. Allowing for all drawbacks this would still leave over 2,000 registered electors on the roll—a vast increase on the late shadow of a constituency. At the general election in 1841 they were 805 voters polled. For the county of Armagh about 6,000 names have been returned by the clerks of the unions, and 450 for the borough. The existing county constituency does not exceed 700, and for the borough 350. At first, under the Reform Act, there were 4,000 voters for the county, and 400 for the borough. A writer in the Newry Telegraph attributes the subsequent diminution to the stagnation of business during the famine years, the depreciation in agricultural produce, emigration, and—more probably than any of these causes—the test of registry, namely, "that a solvent tenant could give 10l a year over and above the rent the voter was liable to pay for the same." The abuse arising out of this ill-judged clause in the Irish Reform Act need not be enumerated now that they are happily but matters of history. The correspondent of the Chronicle estimates that the qualified electors under the Franchise Act will exceed 200,000.

ENCUMBERED ESTATES COMMISSION.—The business of the second session of the Encumbered Estates Court commenced on Tuesday, when no less than seven properties changed hands in the brief space of four hours. A wealthy firm in Dublin, embracing capitalists and land agents, are about to offer advances to purchasers in the Encumbered Estates Court, on the half-credit system contemplated in Sir John Romilly's Securities for Advances Bill.

STATE OF TRADE.—The Dublin trade report for the last week is again favourable. The Freeman's Journal says:—"A very fair amount of business has been transacted in the past week; the consumption of the principal articles of colonial produce is very good, though in some a large trade has not been transacted, because prices for nearly everything continue in the English markets to advance, and buyers here have a predilection for holding off on the supposition that the improvement is only temporary."

THE NEW LAW APPOINTMENTS.—The Right Honourable James Henry Monahan was sworn in before the Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas. At the same time Mr John Hatchell took the oaths as Attorney-General, and Mr Henry George Hughes was sworn in as Solicitor-General. Mr Edmund Mooney has been appointed to the office of clerk to the Attorney-General.

EMIGRATION FROM THE SOUTH.—The Waterford Chronicle likens the inundation of emigration in that city to the "monster meetings of O'Connell in his halcyon days." On Thursday last, "in consequence of the early hour the Liverpool steamers were to sail, our quay was thronged during the night with human beings, as if it had been midday. The William Penn and Devonshire could not have borne away less than 800, the greater part of these being farmers of the most respectable class, thus draining the land of its bone and sinew. Mr M. Coughlan, the emigration agent in this city for Messrs Tapscott and Co., of Liverpool, has favoured us with a communication from that

respectable company, dated the 11th instant. We are permitted to afford this extract for the information of our readers:—"We have booked a vast number of passengers this week for New York, having dispatched over two thousand during the last six days to the said port." Messrs Tapscott and Co. are only one of nine eminent emigration agents in Liverpool; and when only one such house has shipped as many as two thousand, the other eight must have shipped sixteen thousand. All these are probably not Celts; but from the drain from this and other Irish ports, ten thousand may fairly be calculated of Irishmen leaving Liverpool weekly for the land of the Free. Such a tide of emigration in the depth of winter is the forerunner of a continuance so long as means continue to farmers—the produce of their harvest, which they deem their own by the sweat of their brow.—A gentleman who has travelled through a considerable portion of Roscommon gives the following as the result of his observations:—"I have witnessed the greater portion of the inhabitants of what were once thriving villages preparing to leave their native land, the means of accomplishing which has in many instances been sent from relatives already sojourning in the great Republic of the West. It is a race with the peasantry who will be the first to reach the emigrant ship. I am convinced that if the tide of self-expatriation proceeds as it is doing at present, the rural population will be extinguished, and of the 'bold peasantry, their country's pride,' not a wreck will be left behind. For miles as I went along the land was almost waste and uncultivated, and presenting a wild and desolate appearance."

**THE POPE AND THE QUEEN'S COLLEGES.**—On Saturday a Dublin evening journal announced that "intelligence has been received from Rome that the Pope has finally condemned the Queen's Colleges, and thereby placed his ban and interdict, as head of the Romish church, on the education of Roman Catholic youths in these seminaries. Now, no receipt or other communication has been received by the Roman Catholic archbishops touching the colleges. It is by no means unlikely that the final decision of the Pope will be adverse to the colleges; but no official communication whatever has yet been received from Rome by the Roman Catholic primate, Dr. Cullen, with the exception of a note from the Propaganda, which reached him a fortnight since, acknowledging the receipt of the decrees of the Synod held at Thurles, describing them as moderate in tone, and intimating that the subject, at the earliest possible moment, would be taken into consideration by the Holy See. In the western province, the opposition to the Queen's Colleges has been successful to some extent, whilst, on the other hand, the attendance of Roman Catholics from the southern counties has increased at the college at Cork."

## FOREIGN AND COLONIAL.

### DENMARK AND THE DUCHIES.

Advices from Rendsburg on the 18th say:—"Although our situation is still critical, it is in every respect better than it was two months ago. It is no small advantage to have attained the middle of October. Prussian policy prevented a winter campaign in 1848, and again in 1849; the advantage of a winter campaign will, this year, be on the side of Schleswig-Holstein. Towards the end of November the Treene and the Schiel, whose currents now cover the wings of the Danish army, will be bridged over with ice, but the morasses which lie before the Dannenwerke at Hollingstedt will be rendered firm and passable by frost before that time. The Danes, however, are not idle. Colonel Fiendsburg, chief of the Danish staff, is displaying on the fortifications in Schleswig all that great technical and strategic address for which the French school is so famous. The Danes are throwing out works on the west and south sides of the Island of Fehmarn and mounting them with heavy guns. The garrison there consists of 1,000 men. The enemy being determined that we shall not again take advantage of the Sunderstapel position, has laid the district under water. The peasants' houses are so many islands in a watery waste. Cattle and sheep are carried away or drowned, and the fruits of the earth destroyed. The inundation extends as far as Norderstapel and Erdle."

Four Austrian officers in the prime of vigor and life, and fresh from the late wars, have just procured their discharge from their native army, and carried their swords to Rendsburg. Their names are Matieka, Drigalsky, Noessel, and Baron von Riesenfels. As they all possess private property, they ask no hire from the state in whose cause they have gone to fight.

### HESSE CASSEL.

Advices from Cassel are of the 20th instant. No change had taken place in the affairs of the Electorate of Hesse. Mr Onysing, who had returned from Wilhelmshad on the 18th, was again called to that place on the 19th, for the purpose, it is said, of assisting Mr Volmar, the Minister of Finance, in his labours. Mr Elvers has not succeeded in forming his Cabinet, and the Elector has again declined accepting the proposals which were made to him. Great regret was felt at the failure of Mr Elvers' mission to Wilhelmshad. The particulars of the negotiations with the Elector were not known. The officers, too, who have sent in their resignation, are left without a decision as to its acceptance. It appears now that all hopes of such a conversion, and consequently of an arrangement between the Elector and his subjects, are at an end. The former has again been assured of the support and assistance of Austria if he will but hold out and continue the principle of arbitrary power. Count Rechberg, whom the Emperor of Austria sent with this message, arrived at Frankfurt on the 16th inst.

The Government continues to remove constitutionally disposed functionaries from places of responsibility. The chief burgermeister Uloth, of Mosburg, is made director of the Hersfeld district, and M. Harbord director of Hanau. We have been expecting a reconstitution of our financial department, in order to facilitate the execution of the ordinances. A decree enacting such a change was in the press last night, but a telegraphic message, received this morning, ordered its suppression.

### SPAIN.

Referring to the affairs of the Spanish bondholders, the *Chronicle* correspondent says:—"I believe that Lord Howden has not yet presented to the Spanish Government the note to which I alluded in a former letter, and which is said to be a very strong one, recommending the propositions of the English Bondholders' Committee. The delay in doing so has arisen, I understand, from the bondholders' delegates having requested that its presentation might be delayed for a time; and as the object of the note was to assist them, his lordship deemed it right to follow their wishes. The *Epoca* announces as positive that the Queen's speech at the opening of the Cortes will declare the intention of the Government to present a plan for the settlement of the debt in the course of the session; and says that the board charged with drawing up a project is actively proceeding with its task, and will doubtless lay its report ere long before the Government."

There is reason to believe that the question of reciprocating to our reform of the navigation laws, which Lord Howden has been strenuously urging on the Spanish Government, is now meeting at least their serious attention and consideration. It would no doubt be very rash to assume, from this fact, that there

is a prospect of their adopting a liberal policy on this subject, which would imply so total a change in the Spanish navigation system; but it is something when a Spanish ministry is willing to enter upon the question and deliberate upon it.

### THE PAPAL STATES.

The *Risorgimento* of Turin, of the 14th inst., contains the following, under date Rome, the 9th:—"I have been assured that, in his Allocution to the Consistory on the 20th ult., the Pope spoke to the very serious question of Piedmont, but the press will not publish that document, the tenor of which has been kept most secret. I consequently prefer not noticing the negotiations relative to the affair rather than indulge in conjectures and dangerous misstatements. The measures contemplated by the Holy See for the renovation of the English church are not to be confined to the foundation of the Archbishopric of Westminster. Bishops are likewise to be appointed for Liverpool, Birmingham, and other populous cities of England and Scotland. The new cardinal, Dr. Wiseman, first Archbishop of Westminster, will leave Rome in a fortnight to take possession of his see."

On the 7th, paper money, to the amount of 461,210 scudi, received in exchange for the new certificates of credit, was burnt in front of the Palace Borromeo, in presence of the members of the commission named *ad hoc*, and a large concourse of people.

### AUSTRIA.

A telegraphic despatch in the *Cologne Gazette* states that it was the Emperor of Austria's intention to leave Vienna for Warsaw on the 24th inst.

A letter from Vienna of the 19th contradicts the rumour current on the evening of the 18th, of an order having been issued for the advance of the troops into Hesse. The courier from Frankfurt was the bearer of despatches to the effect that the Elector had fully made up his mind not to abdicate. It is now ascertained that the Austrian Cabinet had given the Elector up to the 16th to take a final decision, and, in the event of his abdicating, an Austrian division was to advance at once into the Electorate, conjointly with the Bavarian troops.

The *Kolner Zeitung* has a telegraphic despatch from Vienna of the 20th inst., stating that the Military Commander has prohibited the publication of news respecting the movements of the Austrian army in the Vienna and Austrian papers. It is stated that the late rumours of the movements of Austrian regiments into Saxony and Franconia have induced the Military Commander, by this prohibition, to prevent the recurrence of a panic similar to that which affected the Vienna Exchange on the occasion of the said rumours, for which, as it has since been shown, there was no foundation whatever.

Many symptoms of greater or less importance appear to indicate that a trial of strength between the constitutional and retrograde parties must shortly take place in Austria. If the more liberal members of the Cabinet should now be obliged to quit the field, their defeat must be mainly attributed to the want of firmness they exhibited in a matter to which your attention has before been called. If instead of yielding to the wishes of the Court party in respect to the emancipation of the hierarchy of the Catholic Church, the constitutional members of the Cabinet had resolutely refused to meddle with that which ought to have been left to the decision of the representatives of the nation, their colleagues would probably never have ventured to form plans for removing them from the Administration. The names of the ministers *in spe* have even been mentioned, and among others of less note are those of Count Ficquelmont, Colloredo, and Hartig—the last of whom is not only generally considered, but without doubt is, the author of the "Genesis der Revolution"—a work which about a year since created a vast sensation in Austria, and has since gone through three editions.

It is hardly possible to conceive a more difficult position than that of this country. If Austria fall back into the slough in which she so long wallowed, she will be universally execrated and despised in Germany; if Government resolutely attempt to redeem the pledges given to the people, it will have to do battle against a strong reactionary party at home, supported by a Power to which Austria owes her very existence.

### PRUSSIA.

Correspondence from Berlin is of the 23d inst. There was a suspension of the Hessian agitation pending the issue of the conference at Warsaw between the Emperor of Russia, the Emperor of Austria, and Count Brandenburg. The movement of troops still continued towards the Hessian frontier, but they did not cause much alarm.

The Emperor of Russia had presented Prince Paskiewitch with the staff of a Field Marshal on the anniversary of his fiftieth year of service in the Russian army.

Brunswick has notified to the minister of trade that it will not agree to the protectionist alterations in the tariff of the Zollverein proposed by Prussia. These alterations, therefore, cannot become law, unless Brunswick secedes from the Verein, as one dissentient voice is sufficient to negative the proposal. The ministry of Prussia will, it is to be hoped, not permit the minister of trade to enforce a plan which must end in the diminution of the Zollverein. The Hanse Towns have long been enticed in various ways to enter the Zollverein, but the benefits of free trade are so perceptible to each of them, that they have not given way to the baits which have been held out to them. The secession of Brunswick from the Verein would encourage them in their palpable tendencies towards the free trade Hanoverian Stener Verein. The Zollverein is a lasting benefit to Germany, and must not be permitted to lose the slightest chance of increase through the vagaries of a Minister of Commerce who appears to watch over the interests of his own house in Eiberfeld more than over those of the country in general.

### AMERICA.

There have been two arrivals since our last, the latest of these bringing dates from New York to the 12th inst.

Great excitement continued to exist relative to the operation of the Fugitive Slave Bill. Meetings had been held in various parts of the country to express the opposition of the people to the provisions of the law. The religious press in several cases had taken strong ground against surrendering of the fugitive, nor had the pulpit been silent. It was maintained by Mr Giddings, the senator for Ohio, that no slave who has made his escape to Canada and once touched British soil could be again reduced to slavery, according to the decision of both Northern and Southern Courts. The slave Hamlet, who was seized in New York, under the provisions of the Fugitive Law, had been purchased by the subscription of several citizens and restored to liberty. The following accounts from different districts of the Union show the existing feeling. The newspapers are daily filled with similar extracts:—

Honesdale, Oct. 4.—A great excitement has been created in this community by the appearance of two men from the South, who are after a beautiful Creole, the wife of a Mr Evans, and who they say is a runaway slave. If she is discovered it will hardly be possible for them to take her, the feeling is so strong against them. Oct. 9.—Mrs Evans, the runaway yellow slave, has fled to Ca-

nada with her family. Her husband, who was born a free man, is about starting to join her. Their passage on the underground railroad was paid by common contribution. A meeting is to be called in a day or two in reference to this law.

Boston, Oct. 5.—A great free soil meeting was held in Lowell last night, at which, with shouts of applause, a resolution was passed to call back three fugitive slaves who had fled from that city to Canada, with a pledge that they shall be protected from arrest by the citizens of Lowell. Oct. 7.—Meetings are called all over this state in opposition to the Fugitive Slave Law. Oct. 8.—A large meeting in New Bedford was held last night in opposition to the Fugitive Slave Law, which without the Habeas Corpus and trial by jury was declared to be unconstitutional, and representatives were urged to agitate the subject until it is repealed.

Detroit, Oct. 8.—A negro has been arrested here to day under the new law, and it has created great excitement. Hundreds of negroes are armed and threatening to rescue the prisoner, whose examination takes place to-morrow. Oct. 9.—The examination of the fugitive slave took place to-day. Scott's Guards, Gray's Guard, and United States' troops accompanied the prisoner from the jail to the court room with loaded muskets. No attempts at rescue were made by the negroes and others who had collected about the jail in hundreds. Some stones and brickbats were thrown at the marshal's carriage. The negro was sent to jail for a week, to wait for evidence, when the crowd dispersed.

Rochester, Oct. 7.—The celebrated Frederick Douglass, it is said, has been invited to attend an anti-Fugitive Slave Law meeting at Faneuil hall, in Boston, on Monday evening, the 14th inst, and has accepted the invitation.

Toronto, Oct. 7.—Fugitive slaves arrive here by almost every steamer from the American side.

Relative to California, the *Daily News* correspondent says:—"A gentleman of my acquaintance told me the other day that he knew a respectable labouring man who had just returned from California with twelve thousand dollars, and the fruits of his personal labour. He left the United States not worth a groat, and his family behind him in great poverty. As soon as he had made enough to secure himself against want, he returned, and this was what he said of himself: 'No man can tell what I have gone through; I endured every kind of suffering; but I happened to find a lucky spot, and I soon got along. Ten feet from where I found my gold there were men working who did not find anything. Every night these men would sit down and cry over their bad luck: the next day they would try again, and have no better success. I was more fortunate. And now I have come home with so much money, I find my family safe and well; the care of my treasure fills me with anxiety. I am not quite right in my mind; I have gone through so much trouble, I am not myself; I hope I shall be myself by and by.' This gives one an idea of California, so far as individuals are concerned, and how sudden wealth affects some of these adventurers."

The State elections are coming off with various results. The Whigs are very successful in Ohio, very unfortunate in Pennsylvania. Party lines are all broken up everywhere.

#### WEST INDIES.

Dates from Jamaica are to the 28th ult. The heat in the towns continued oppressive. It had reached, on two or three occasions, 94 in the shade. The rains had not entirely ceased, although there were said to be indications of a "general break-up" in the weather. The rains which had fallen in Hanover, Westmoreland, Trelawny, and St Anne's, were expected to assist very materially the planters with their next crops. The pimento crop of St Anne's was reduced to less than a third of that of the previous year, whilst in St Elizabeth's the most extensive crop ever produced had been secured.

The Jamaica Bank, having held its half-yearly meeting, had made its report, which was considered satisfactory. "By it it appeared that on the 30th of June the bank's liability on circulation amounted to 46,976l 10s, and to depositors 48,272l 18s 5d, making a total liability to the public of 95,272l 18s 5d, to meet which there was cash in Bank chest, and in the hand of London, foreign, and local agents, to the amount of 40,256l 7s 10d, and in bills of exchange and other securities (including balance of bad debts per last report) a further sum of 157,159l 12s 6d. The profits of the last year's transactions amounted to 4,106l 2s 4d, which allowed a dividend of 5s per share, or 3 per cent for the half-year, and permitted a balance of 1,106l 2s 4d to be carried to the reserved surplus fund, a distribution which, on the recommendation of the directors, the proprietors present unanimously approved."

Some of the local papers stated that the legislature was to be convened for the "despatch of business" on the 15th of October; but we hear from good authority that it was not likely to meet until the 22nd of October.

Notwithstanding the want of field-labour was known to exist, emigration from the island was taking place. Very recently 31 labourers were sent from Kingston to work on the railway at Panama, and a much larger number could have been easily obtained.

Advices from British Guiana extend to the 27th of September. The Derwent arrived on that day with the European mails two days overdue. The weather during the preceding fortnight had been highly favourable for the planters, but the general complaint was that produce came very slowly to market, and that shipping was lying in the Demerara river idle. The planters will in a few months be looking for the first arrivals of vessels with Coolies from India under the recent resolution of the Court of Policy. In the meantime a desire was very generally felt that efforts should be made to induce the Coolies already in the colony, and whose term of servitude had expired, to forego their right of passage, and to remain in Guiana. With this view the Court of Policy had appointed a committee to confer with these people, to see if any and what terms could be made with them. It was thought that some would barter their right either for money or land, but that the majority, having money enough to satisfy their wants in India, would insist upon the colony keeping to its engagement and sending them home. The proceedings of the Combined Court relative to the loan of 250,000l sterling had been notified to the inhabitants by proclamations issued by the Governor, accompanied by orders in Council bearing the royal sanction.

Letters and papers from Trinidad are to the 27th ult. Commercial affairs were in a very unsatisfactory condition, and a scarcity of capital was complained of. A large number of properties had been advertised for public sale in December next on account of arrears due for the ward-rate. There was no sensible alteration in the wages of labourers. On sugar estates the operations were concluded with facility, and the general aspect of the plantations was satisfactory, the weather being favourable. A few small proprietors were planting cotton, but more as essays than for speculation. It is stated in a letter from Trinidad, that at the present price which cotton now fetches its cultivation will never yield a remunerative price, even if the wages of the peasantry were reduced below the present rates. The crop shipped in 1850 amounted to 23,412 hogsheads, and it was estimated that the whole crop would amount to 24,000

hogsheads, showing a deficiency of 4,000 hogsheads when compared with the yield of 1849.

The West India Islands generally were healthy, and in most of them the prospects for the next year's crops were encouraging.

#### INDIA.

Dates from Bombay are to Sept. 17th.

The petty civil war in the Nizam's territories still continues without decisive advantage on either side. The Nawab of Ellichpore, in following up the late victory of Borlee in too unguarded a manner, has received a check from the Nizam's forces, and retired on Unjunsam. Another of the usual *encutes* has occurred in the city of Hyderabad. It arose in an attempt made by 150 unpaid soldiers to carry off a field-piece in part satisfaction for their arrears of pay. 400 Arabs were sent after them, who, after a fight, in which 17 or 18 were killed, succeeded in capturing the gun.

Oude is still in an unsettled state; and it is reported that the present Resident, Colonel Sleeman, is to be relieved by Mr Torrens, formerly Secretary to Government, and now political agent at Moorshedabad.

The present aspect of the Punjab is most encouraging; the population, now disarmed, have settled down into their former habits of industry. The breadth of land under cultivation this season is said to be unprecedented, and the crops are everywhere most promising.

It is rumoured that Sir H. Lawrence had been imprisoned by some independent Rajah on his way back from Cashmere, but the report is not generally believed. Lord Dalhousie is still at Kunawar, but he is to be at Umballa by the middle of October, whence he proceeds on a tour through the Punjab to Peshawar. Sir Charles Napier leaves Simla on the 5th of November on his return to England. The first sections of the Bengal and Bombay Railways will probably be commenced in November or December. A scheme has been originated by Captain French, late Acting-Resident at Baroda, for a railway, 42 miles in length, to that capital from Tankara Bunder, at the head of the Gulf of Cambay. The preliminary survey and estimate had been made at the expense of the Guicowar of Baroda. The ship *Ariadne* was wrecked in the bay of Bengal by the gale of the 6th of August; 12 of her crew have arrived at Calcutta, after wandering about in the Soonderbunds for three weeks, exposed to every variety of hardships.

The Australian wines have at length found their way into the Calcutta markets, and are selling there for 32s a dozen. Trade at Bombay is improving; the high prices of cotton wool have led to its being extensively adulterated, but the stringent enforcement of the legal penalties attached to such offences will, it is hoped, check the practice. There is very little cotton now remaining in the market, owing to which freights have fallen slightly. Exchange has risen considerably, the present rate being 2s 1d per rupee for six months bills on London.

#### CHINA.

The only matter of importance to refer to this month is the fearful mortality among her Majesty's 59th Regiment, which is only just beginning to abate. Since the last mail, about fifty men have been carried to their graves after a short illness. The regiment, since its arrival in the colony, had lost ninety men—eighty-two of fever, and chiefly within the previous two months. After this fearful loss of life the authorities have taken upon themselves the responsibility of engaging a vessel, to which 100 to 150 men have been removed. With the experience of what occurred in 1843, it is to be regretted that this measure was not resorted to as soon as sickness appeared among the troops; the lives of very many fine soldiers would thereby have been spared, and a loss to Great Britain of 10,000l to 12,000l would have been avoided.

#### AUSTRALIA.

The latest account from the Australian colonies are of a cheering nature, showing a rapid and sound improvement in their character and condition. At New South Wales, the Governor, Sir Charles Fitzroy, had opened the Legislative Session under auspicious circumstances; the revenue, up to June, 1850, showing a decided advance upon the previous half-year, whilst the exports, particularly in the articles of wool and tallow, had increased largely in amount.

The first railway from Sydney into the rural districts was to have been opened on the 3d of July, by the Hon. Mrs. Keith Stewart, the daughter of the Governor, and the directors of the company were making arrangements for celebrating so interesting an event as the formation of the first railway in Australia, in a manner becoming its importance.

Accounts had been received at Sydney from the Auckland Islands, from which it would appear that Mr Enderby's settlement was not thriving; and it was stated that a number of the emigrants, sent out by the Company, had proceeded to New South Wales by the barque *Augusta*.

DEATH OF THE GOVERNOR OF ST HELENA.—By an arrival at Liverpool, we have intelligence of the death of Major-General Sir Patrick Ross, Governor of St Helena.

WRECK OF A RUSSIAN WAR-STEAMER.—Letters from Swinemunde, dated the 21st of October, state that the Russian war-steamer *Archimedes* had run ashore near Ronne, and was expected to become a wreck. The crew were all saved, with the exception of eight men.

#### BIRTHS.

On the 18th inst, in Lansdowne-place, Brighton, Baroness de Linden, of a daughter. On the 23rd instant, at Dover, the wife of Lieutenant-Colonel Grove, of a son. On Saturday, the 19th inst, at No 1, Montague-place, Montague-square, the lady of R. H. Woodhouse, Esq., of a daughter.

#### MARRIAGES.

On the 17th inst, at Bishopsbourne, by the Rev. Arthur Eden, B.A., brother of the bride, assisted by the Rev. Alexander Taylor, M.A., Fellow of Queen's College, Oxford, Dudley, Lord North, eldest son of the Earl of Guildford, to Charlotte Maria, third daughter of the Hon. and Rev. William Eden, rector of Bishopsbourne, and Lady Grey de Ruthyn.

On Wednesday, the 16th inst, at Panwerris district church, Falmouth, by the Rev. E. Dix, vicar of Newlyn, assisted by the Rev. E. D. Wood, brother of the bride, John McDowell Skene, Esq., Commander, R.N., Inspecting Commander of the Coast Guard at Falmouth, to Harriet Anna, eldest daughter of Major-General Wood, C.B., K.H., Colonel of the 3rd West India regiment.

#### DEATHS.

On the 22nd inst., at Alderley park, Cheshire, the Right Hon. John Thomas Stanley, Lord Stanley of Alderley, in the 84th year of his age.

On the 20th instant, in Wimpole street, the Rev. Dr Thackeray, Provost of King's College, Cambridge, and Chaplain in Ordinary to Her Majesty.

On the 21st inst, at Addiscombe house, near Croydon, in his 67th year, Major-General Sir Ephraim G. Stannus, C. B.

## Literature.

THE EDINBURGH REVIEW. No. CLXXXVIII. October, 1850.  
Longmans, Paternoster row.

This number of the Review contains several interesting articles. We pass over, as not peculiarly adapted to our pages or our pursuits, "Mure's Ancient Greek Language and Literature"—a subject which Mr Grote and Col. Mure have just now made exceedingly popular amongst the learned. "Horace and Tasso," too, a history rather of the lives than a criticism on the writings of those poets; and "Recent Classical Romances," an extremely pleasing article, we must leave unnoticed. We must quit, too, with very little more attention, an excellent article on the "Difficulties of Republican France," which we might dwell on at length with pleasure and pride, as expressing views similar to those which have occasionally been expressed in the *Economist*; but must content ourselves by saying, that the author begins by calling attention to the fact that both political philosophers and statesmen have generally ignored the fundamentally different characteristics of different nations, which has made them adapt their systems to an ideal man, and expect from all nations equal success and equal excellence. To imagine, on this principle, "that the same political garments will fit all nations alike is a practical mistake," the Reviewer says, "of the most dangerous character." It is, however, generally made: it is made by the French—they want the qualities indispensable to the successful working of self-government, which is the source of their difficulties. The author works out this idea with much detail and great success, and the result is a political-philosophical paper of a very high character.

We can devote as little space to an article which discusses at great length, but with some confusion as to places, Col. Chesney's plan for communicating with India by the route of the Euphrates. It is in truth now thirteen years since the trial was made; and, though as commerce extends, that route will probably also come into use, and the rich countries through which the river flows be restored to some portion of their ancient splendour, there seems no chance of any attempt being again at present made by England to direct either commerce or communication in that direction. Col. Chesney's book, though recently published, cannot now revive our interest in his unsuccessful attempt, whatever effect it may have in exalting his reputation and character.

We cannot take an extensive notice, without entering into controversy, of the article on "Emigration and Industrial Training," which begins rather offensively, by stating that "emigration can no longer be left to blind chance, or the unaided impulse of unthinking multitudes;" as if the unaided impulse of unthinking multitudes, or what the Reviewer calls blind chance, did not dictate the conduct of the great mass of mankind, and constitute the whole of that political economy which he mistakingly regards as something different from an explanation of those impulses and their consequences, and therefore supposes must be applied to regulate emigration. He mistakes, too, the regulations which have been found inimical to the progress of wealth, for the impulses that have induced men to create it; and he would probably have emigration regulated as commerce was, and still is regulated in some countries, hampering the impulses of the multitude, and injuring the national welfare. In another part of the Review it is very justly said, "it is not on what we call government that the world essentially depends, but upon certain laws of Nature and of Providence (query, or), which the more that men will study and submit to, each in his own private sphere, the more the world will go as its Creator designed it to do." But those laws can only be known through the impulses of the multitude and their consequences, which the other Reviewer would treat as blind chance, or as something which must be regulated by his or some other person's ignorant wisdom. But being more desirous to make known the contents of the Review than to controvert any of its statements, we must pass the article by, merely stating that it is an advocacy for the national training of paupers and of ragged schools, though it is distinctly stated "that every system of charity is in itself a harm to the common wealth."

## MUSEUM CATALOGUE.

An article on the "British Museum Commission," to which we must pay more attention, adverts to the disputes which have taken place relative to cataloguing the books of the Museum—a subject that has excited a deep interest amongst the learned, being adverted to by sundry periodicals almost week after week. The subject is of some public interest, as well as of interest to book-men; and as the public are not much acquainted with it, we shall, perhaps, be excused from dwelling on it at some length, and borrowing from the Reviewer an account of this new "battle," not of the "books," but of book-makers.

From the Review it appears that the catalogists are, and have long been, divided into two, at least, contending parties, one vociferously demanding full and accurate catalogues, and the other as vociferously requiring compendious ones—"auction lists." A committee of the House of Commons and a Royal Commission have investigated and deliberated on this knotty subject, and the officers of the Museum, as well as the literary world at large, take different sides. It has been on hand at least since 1819. A committee of the House of Commons, which sat in 1835 and 1836, took notice of it, but not having settled it, a Royal Commission was appointed to inquire into the subject in 1847. At the same time, the Museum has already a catalogue made by Sir H. Ellis and Mr Baber, the like to which "there is not in any continental library for the free and sole use of the readers." Possessing such a catalogue—which seems all that is requisite, all that the public should provide, or that reasonable men can demand—the formation of some other exquisite or perfect catalogue, with full titles, to satisfy all the demands of every bibliophile or bibliographer, has obtained almost national attention, and has already had bestowed on it no inconsiderable portion of the national funds. The latter cir-

cumstance, rather than the former—for the mere disputes of the catalogists would be of no interest if the subject did not involve a demand on our purses—makes us refer to it. It seems right that the public should be put in possession of particulars that in some measure concern the national reputation, and in a larger measure the national finances. This, then, is what the Reviewer says of

## THE PRESENT CATALOGUE.

In 1819, the publication was completed of what is commonly known as the *octavo catalogue* (in eight volumes) of the printed books in the Museum. It is a catalogue of brief titles, prepared by Mr (now Sir Henry) Ellis and Mr Baber, without any assistance. The great absolute merit of this production appears in nothing so clearly as in the contest of evidence which has brought out its errors, its omissions, and its absurdities; but which at the same time has established the fact that a correct and consistent catalogue of a large library is a wonder which the world has not yet seen. This octavo catalogue, formed by two persons, beats many more elaborate performances. Even the grotesque blunder which will take a firm place in the history of bibliography, the entrance of Happy Struggle (*Felix Ago*) as an *author* instead of a *subject*, is matched, if not beaten, by what occurs in the deliberate publication of a time-honoured university. The above mentioned catalogue, made folio by pasted margin, and interleaved for manuscript additions, is that which is in use at the Museum up to this day; and the evidence proves that, far as it is from perfection, there is nothing like it in any continental library for the free and sole use of the readers, who, indeed, but seldom have direct access to any catalogue at all.

We shall now quote a description of the Bodleian catalogue, to resemble which the full catalogue is to be compiled, but made more complete:—

## THE BODLEIAN CATALOGUE.

Mr De Morgan produced (offering more if wanted) more than four folio pages (with comments) full of such mistakes as the affirmation that Briggs's folio "Arithmetica Logarithmica" is reprinted at the end of Wells's octavo "Art of Shadoves", because a small table of logarithms on Briggs's system happens to be there. Examining the article Euclid, and making it his own condition that he would stop as soon as he came to any entry which was not very objectionable, he could make no pause before the eighth work entered under that name: the very first entry containing a concealment of the fact that Gregory's celebrated *Oxford* edition has a *Greek text*. With respect to the vaunted dissection of works, it appeared that eleven volumes of the splendid collection of Halma, containing Ptolemy, Proclus, Geminus, Theon, &c., made no appearance except under Ptolemy; and that not a single writer in Maseres's *Scriptores Logarithmici* was to be found under his own name. But, *per contra*, dissection invented non-existing works, one of which was more remarkable than *Felix Ago*. In the sixteenth century lived G. J. Rheticus, well known as the most laborious calculator of tables that ever lived, and the friend and follower of Copernicus; a worthy man, who had nothing to do with beer or ale except to drink that modicum which would strengthen him without unfitting him for going from his dinner to his slow and laborious calculation of sines. The Bodleian catalogue has him down for a treatise on beer, "Rheticus (G. J.) *Cervisia*," said to be contained in the *Amphitheatrum sapientie Socratica joco serie* of Dornavius, a kind of folio light reading of the year 1619. Now the fact is that Rheticus, honest man, made a joke—or what was called a joke in his day—upon the *signs of the zodiac and Breslau beer*, on which joke one Brusch wrote verses which Dornavius inserted in his miscellany: and hence the asserted work of Rheticus on beer, to the exclusion even of the zodiac, though he was an astronomer.

The reader may, perhaps, form some idea of the immense labour required to make a catalogue of this latter description, but much more complete, of every pamphlet and book in the Museum, if we state that every one must be taken down from its place, examined, and replaced, and the shelves in the Museum extend *twelve miles*. To carry out the plan of forming such a catalogue, Mr Panizzi, the keeper of the printed books, the great advocate of the full title plan, has already laid down for his own guidance, and the guidance of his assistants, *ninety one rules*—the rules for the conduct of life are *ten*, and one of them at least is of very doubtful authenticity and little value—making the formation of such a catalogue the work of some generations. Mr Bolton Corney's rational objection to such a catalogue—made light of by the Reviewer—is, "I see no chance at my time of life of ever having before me a catalogue which is carried on upon so elaborate a plan." One or two lives would scarcely complete it, and when it is done, what is the worth of a description of a vast number of books, more than the half of which are probably sheer rubbish, which no man ever looks into. "God and the authors themselves," as Mr Carlyle phrased it, would have a service done them by extinguishing many of these books, instead of preserving them with such extraordinary care, and wasting life and wasting the public money in describing their contents, on the careful and correct plan illustrated by "*Felix Ago*," and "*Rheticus on beer*." The trouble already taken may be known from the following passage:—

In 1838, it was resolved that the full catalogue on which much labour had been already expended, should be printed forthwith; that is to say, that as soon as a part of letter A could be got ready, the printing of it should proceed while the rest of that very letter was in preparation, and so on. This unfortunate determination, the fruit of a praiseworthy desire to give all possible satisfaction to the literary world, was taken in opposition to the earnest advice of Mr Panizzi, to whom its execution was entrusted, and who had in 1837 been promoted, after six years' experience in a subordinate post, to the office of Keeper of the Printed Books: and the first volume, containing letter A was actually published in 1841. The printing was afterwards suspended, a proceeding approved of by the trustees early in 1846, from the mere impossibility of the mode of proceeding above described: and the dissatisfaction of a portion of the literary public at this step, augmented by various misconceptions, had a large share in producing the Royal Commission.

The Royal Commission has taken evidence at great length, some specimens of which are given by the Reviewer. For example, Mr Carlyle said "it was not worth while to take much trouble to accommodate the thick-skinned race who get up useful knowledge;" and *a fortiori* not worth while to take any trouble to accommodate the thin-skinned race, who, like Mr Carlyle himself, get up useless books. These two classes probably include all the persons for whose special use the catalogue is intended. The learned gentleman complained of an unfortunate reader, who "blew his nose very loudly every half hour," and generally of readers "who blow their noses in an insane state." Another learned gentleman deposed to the fact, that "the reading room generated a particular flea larger than was to be found else-

where," from which Mr Hudson Turner meant, we presume, to have it implied that the reading room was frequented by persons of a low description, who ought not to be admitted. Such are some of the subjects into which the Royal Commission on the Museum inquired, and to which literary gentlemen depose.

The Reviewer occupies nearly two pages with little else than the names of the great literary chieftains who have taken part in the contest about the "full titles" or the "auction lists," and who discuss evidence like that of Mr Carlyle and Mr Hudson Turner. What a theme for a Swift or an Arbuthnot; but the Swifts of our age—if the age boast any—are occupied with satirising tradesmen, whose avarice is nevertheless worthy of infinite respect, compared to these battles between the "full title" and the "auction list" men.

A good catalogue of books, and particularly of the books in the Museum intended for the public, is chiefly required to get easily at any one volume. Its main use is to give readers easy access to the contents of the library. Of course that should be the first consideration, and that accomplished, other and meaner things may be attended to. It may, for example, be worthy of some trouble, for the sake of mere bibliopoles and hunters after literary curiosities—the ingenious millet-seed and needle-eyed men of the world—that the catalogue should record whether the book in the library were a first or a second, or any other edition, how many known editions the work had gone through, or what commentator or annotator it had had, and a brief notice of any other curious things concerning it. But all this is clearly very secondary and unimportant matter, and probably should be left to each particular student, agreeable to his taste, to perform for himself. It is given in evidence by Mr G. L. Craik, that an auction list catalogue would answer nine out of ten of the purposes of the reading room. But only a few students—not one out of a hundred, perhaps, or one out of a thousand—require the catalogue to be made to answer the tenth purpose, and demand that all the information they may require should be supplied to them at the public expense, in the shape of a catalogue amounting to between two and three hundred volumes, and constituting a large library of itself. To supply, perhaps, the fastidious wants of some recondite man of letters—one in a thousand—a catalogue is to be made at the public expense. To equip a fleet to catch a herring is rational economy compared to this. Besides the impropriety and injustice of appropriating the money of the people to gratify a small sect of students—who ought to hunt up the knowledge each one requires for himself of his own favourites, if it be worth hunting up—no sooner is a catalogue of the large kind proposed commenced, than commences some kind of critical function, describing the character of the work, apportioning out reputation amongst authors, and the catalogue becomes tainted with all the trivialities and many of the acerbities of literary men. A small portion of matter required is embraced in the following description:—

The title of books should be given with such fulness as shall not fail both to represent the author's intention, in every point in which he allowed his title-page to declare it, and also to supply such information with regard to appendices, annotations, &c., as a correct author would advertise in his title-page, when the actual author does not do it.

The project arises in part from a much too high estimate of the literary character and its productions, formed by literary men. In fact, however, all their productions, however eminent, and the little variations in them, are no more worthy of the general notice, and of having some record of them preserved at the public cost, than the various editions of so many cobbled pairs of shoes. The subject being left exclusively in the hands of literary men, they rate it much too high, and the consequences are interminable disputes about *minutia* that seem not at all essential to a useful catalogue, and the postponement *sine die* of the publication of a catalogue that might be of use. It is now time, apparently, that the common sense of the illiterate public should take cognizance of the matter, and reduce the chiffonniers of intellect—the collectors and preservers of the cast away rags and offals of the mind—to their proper place, which seems a very low one, notwithstanding royal commissions and royal encouragement, committees of Parliament, and no small waste of the national resources on this class of men and their peculiar pursuits. They seem to have as little respect, or perhaps less, for property, than the other classes, and unblushingly and continually propose that the people should be taxed, and have their property taken from them, to supply literary men with conveniences, pensions, and rewards. The less value their labour is of in the common market—and this catalogue-making is a specimen of it—the more strenuously they insist on compelling the people to purchase it, and all the instruments necessary for the performance of it, at an enormous expense. We must add of the article, which is otherwise extremely pleasant to reflect on, that it scatters its missiles like a bursting shell amongst the literati. Mr Carlyle, Sir Frederick Madden, Mr Hudson Turner, Mr Bolton Corney, &c., &c., are all attacked directly, and are attacked indirectly and, for such sensitive persons, more painfully, by praise bestowed on opponents. The writer is an avowed partisan of Mr Panizzi and the "full title" gentlemen, and his strictures are not the less amusing from his remarks being rendered caustic by a little personal feeling.

#### SIMPLICITY OF ENGLISH GRAMMAR.

A very able article on "The United States," we must notice on some other occasion; but we cannot conclude without adverting to an elaborate article on the "English Language." The problem is to ascertain how it came into its present form. The bulk of it is Anglo-Saxon, which was spoken in its purity till about the time of the Conquest, and a little before that period began the changes which terminated in the formation of the English language. Dr. Latham—and the Reviewer mainly concurs with him—believes that the Conquest had little influence over the language—that it would have been developed much the same had that political event not occurred, as the analogy of the Danish and the Dutch languages enables us to determine. It seems admitted on all sides that the most important changes in its grammar had commenced during the reign of the Anglo-Saxon kings

and it is asserted that of these changes no satisfactory explanation has ever been given. To arrive at an explanation, we must first learn what the changes were. They are only rudely indicated by the phrase, simplification of the grammar—a process which, though carried to an extreme in our tongue, is also observable in the Dutch and the Danish. The inquiry should be less directed, we apprehend, to what simplified our grammar, than to what saved it from the complications which a study of the grammars of the language of antiquity engrafted on the other languages of Europe. When examined by principles of reason, it is found that the grammars of the English and the Danish have fewer faults than the grammars of most other European languages—that is to say, that they do not multiply signs or words when there is no multiplication of things. For example, our language does not give distinct names to males and females—to all that is really distinguishable into sex—as man, woman—bull, cow—stallion, mare, &c., &c., &c., and also call the names of these genders masculine and feminine, requiring that a different article should be used with each, and that an accompanying adjective or participle should have different terminations as the noun is masculine or feminine. If the principle were not erroneous, it should be extended to verbs, which, like French and German adjectives, should have masculine and feminine terminations, which is the case with the verbs in some languages, as they have different terminations for the singular and the plural. The English language does not even in all cases require a change in the verb to correspond either with number or time. Must, read, and others, are examples of indeclinable verbs. Pronouns being always used to designate persons, and adverbs to designate time, a change in the verb which always expresses precisely the same action is altogether superfluous. Our tongue, then, has been rescued from many unnecessary complications, from giving genders to words, while the sexes they designate have each a separate name, and making other words accord with them, so as to have throughout the language two or more signs for the same quality. Black or white, for example, is precisely the same in males or females, and only unnecessary complication is attained by adding an *e* to the word which signifies black in a female. In the languages of antiquity the distinctions, circumstances, and relations that we designate by particular names or words, were designated by terminations; and as the Northern nations and their grammarians came to follow the ancient languages, they did not give up their own articles and pronouns. They incorporated into their respective tongues the terminations of foreign languages, and framed their grammars after those of antiquity. The comparatively little corruption of our tongue is, probably, owing to the little abiding influence of the Romans in our country, and the good sense of the people. They saw or felt that it was not necessary to have masculine and feminine words, as well as names for males and females—that the qualities designated by adjectives were precisely the same in both sexes, and did not therefore require to have distinct signs—and that the actions designated by verbs was the same, let who might perform them, and the actors were sufficiently designated by the pronouns without also changing the verbs to designate them. The good sense of the people prevailed to a considerable extent at least in their language as in other things, and saved it from many of the inaccuracies, pedantic follies, and incumbrances which perplex and impede the march of some other languages, and of the minds of those who use them. The question is a branch of that larger inquiry, what has given to the Anglo-Saxon tribes their peculiar qualities, and made them conspicuous for solid good sense, while other nations have many shining qualities in which they are deficient. Our grammar is simple, because we take, as the rule, the shortest and straightest course to reach our object. No doubt it will be more simplified yet; and there is as little doubt that the grammars of other nations will, by and by, be simplified like our own, and the approximations to one tongue will begin by framing the grammars of all on the principles of reason. For its excellent article, tracing the growth of the English language subsequent to the Conquest, we are grateful to the Reviewer, and think such labours much more creditable to the Reviewer, and more serviceable to the public, than the endless dissertations, in which the Quarterlies have loved to indulge, on the classical languages. The present number of the Review is superior to many of its predecessors. Not only are the subjects chosen all interesting, but they are treated with a freedom and boldness that have not lately been strikingly characteristic of the Reviewer.

#### BOOKS RECEIVED.

The Khan's Tale. By T. B. Frazer. (Parlour Library.) Simms and McIntyre.  
Commercial Law: its Principles and Administration. Vol. I. By Leone Levi. Benning and Co., or Simpkin and Marshall.  
A Practical Treatise on the Cultivation of the Sugar Cane and the Manufacture of Sugar. By Thomas Kerr. Griffin and Co.  
The Receipt Book for the Million. Dipple  
On the Construction of Locks and Keys. By John Chubb, A. Inst. C. E.  
Edinburgh Review for October.

#### 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 19th day of Oct. 1856:—

#### ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

£.		s.	
Notes issued .....	29,443,965	Government debt .....	11,015,100
		Other Securities .....	2,984,900
		Gold coin and bullion .....	15,331,225
		Silver bullion .....	112,740
	29,443,965		29,443,965



BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Table with 2 columns: Proprietors' capital, Rent, Public Deposits, Other Deposits, Seven Day and other Bills. Includes Government Securities, Other Securities, Notes, and Gold and Silver Coins.

Dated the 24th Oct. 1850.

M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

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

Table comparing Liabilities and Assets. Liabilities include Circulation Inc. Bank post bills, Public Deposits, and Other or private Deposits. Assets include Securities and Bullion.

The balance of assets above liabilities being 3,104,740l, as stated in the above account under the head REST.

FRIDAY NIGHT.

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

Table showing changes in Circulation, Public Deposits, Other Deposits, Securities, Bullion, Rest, and Reserve.

The present returns, which include the payments on account of dividends, shew an increase of circulation to the amount of 737,746l, the total circulation being 21,523,702l; a decrease of public deposits to the large amount of 4,410,153l; an increase of private deposits to the amount only of 700,536l; a decrease of securities to the amount of 2,636,980l, of which 2,422,244l is private securities, the remainder, 214,736l, being public securities; a further decrease of bullion to the amount of 289,945l, the decrease being thus divided, 167,295l gold coin or bullion, and 87,145l silver bullion, from the issue department, and 35,505l gold and silver coin from the banking department. The returns further show an increase of rest, 44,946l; and a decrease of reserve, 962,335l.

The Money Market has been decidedly firmer this week. Money is easily placed on call at 2 per cent., and the best bills are discounted at 2 1/4 to 2 1/2 per cent. There has been a considerable demand for silver, which has risen 1/8th in value. Last week a considerable sum was exported from Southampton by the Peninsular packet, for the East Indies.

The Funds have been in a much more agitated state than usual this week. The rise that we noted last week continued in the early part of this week, with considerable business doing, but on Wednesday they were flat; on Thursday there was a fall of 3/8th per cent. in consequence of the report that the other Powers were determined to constrain Prussia to act with them in settling the affairs of Denmark; to-day they rallied, and Consols closed at 97 1/2, but the market was not firm. The following is our usual list of the opening and closing prices of Consols on each day of the week, and of the closing prices last Friday and this day of the other principal stocks:—

Table showing opening and closing prices for Consols and various stocks including Bank stock, East India stock, Spanish 3 per cents, Portuguese 4 per cents, Mexican 5 per cents, Dutch 2 1/2 per cents, Dutch 4 per cents, and Russian 4 1/2 stock.

It will be noticed that the premium on Exchequer Bills has receded. Other parties probably besides the Bank have been selling them, which coming so immediately after the payment of the dividends, indicates a profitable use for money, and a considerable demand for it.

Some surprise has been expressed that mining shares are not introduced on the Stock Exchange, as negotiable securities; but

we understand the reason is, that the shares in each mine are so few that the jobbers will have nothing to do with them. The Stock Exchange Committee would be very glad to introduce them into the house were it practicable.

The Railway Market has not attracted much of the money which has come into the hands of the public from the payment of the dividends. It has been in general dull through the week, and to-day and yesterday was affected by the price of Consols. But though dull, the market is steady, and closed to-day for most shares much the same as last week. The public do not carry much of their spare wealth to the railway, because they find an effective demand for it in other quarters. The following is our list of the closing prices last Friday and this day:—

Table titled 'RAILWAYS. Closing prices last Friday. Closing prices this day.' listing various railway lines like London and North Western, Midland counties, Brighton Stock, etc.

We quote the following as a specimen of the romance with which persons are still entertained from the diggings. It is among the latest arrivals. The great prolificness of the mines seems to us to be made more than doubtful, by the fact that preparations are making, on a large scale, and in some instances carried into effect, for bringing and washing the quartz, which reduces the collection very much to the ordinary process of mining, and shows that gold will no more be obtained for a continuance in California, without great labour, than in the other auriferous regions. Indeed, several persons have recently returned from the diggings, who have described the work as excessively hard, and the profits by no means proportionate:—

At the meadows on the North Fork, Feather river, near the Lawson route, the richest yields of the season have been realised, and an excitement has been created with regard to them almost equal to the Gold Lake fever. Dr Smith says there are Coyota Diggings, near this place, from which, at the depth of from seventeen to twenty-five feet, 23,000 dols have been taken out in two days which is the largest sort of a story.

On the South Fork of Feather river, Mr Burt informed us a few days since, that eight men were making 13,000 dols per week. It was called Pitt's Claim. One of the party had realised as his share, since the commencement of the work, 27,000 dols. The next claim was a comparative failure. Below this again, there were three cradles running, which averaged daily 600 dols each. So high were the expectations in this neighbourhood, that when only from 6 dols to 20 dols a man per day could be obtained, the place would be abandoned as a failure. The best deposits are found upon a rotten granite bed, at a depth of one to five feet of cobble stones, gravel, sand, and clay. Where the bottom is smooth, there is no gold found.

Barnes Bar, on the North Fork of the American river, about twenty-two miles from Auburn, has long been a favourite location, and we hear that there is scarcely any exception to the general success of the miners working there. A gentleman from there, a few days since, told us of one cradle turning out 750 dollars the day he left, and that thirteen men had taken twenty-five ounces before noon, from a bar which they that morning began to work. Three-quarters of a mile above the bars, Bance and Co. were getting 15 dols to the panful. Of all the dams built in that vicinity, not one out of ten had proved a failure, as far even as the product of not less than 10 dols per day would entitle them to such estimation. While damming proves so successful, side work is entirely suspended. From a winged dam which was worked last year and filled up again, 6 dols to 10 dols a day was taken. The use of quicksilver machines is highly approved, and they are generally credited to give 100 per cent better return than the common rocker.

At the same time we must state that the arrivals at New York of gold from California continue large, and the last accounts from New York mention that two steam vessels, the Cherokee and the Empire City, had brought together 1,551,007 dollars.

COMPARATIVE EXCHANGES.

The premium on gold at Paris is 5 per mille, which, at the English mint price of 3l 17s 10 3/4d per ounce for standard gold, gives an exchange of 25.29; and the exchange at Paris on London at short being 25.222, it follows that gold is 0.26 per cent dearer in Paris than in London.

By advices from Hamburg the price of gold is 431 per mark, which, at the English mint price of 3l 17s 10 3/4d per ounce for standard gold, gives an exchange of 13.8; and the exchange at Hamburg on London at short being 13.73, it follows that gold is 0.12 per cent dearer in Hamburg than in London.

The course of exchange at New York on London for bills at 60 days' sight is 110 1/2 per cent; and the par of exchange between England and America being 109.23-40 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 BANKERS' PRICE CURRENT.

Table titled 'PRICES OF ENGLISH STOCKS' showing daily prices for various types of stocks like Bank Stock, Consols, and India Stock from Saturday to Friday.

COURSE OF EXCHANGE.

Table showing exchange rates for various international locations such as Amsterdam, Rotterdam, Antwerp, and London, with columns for Time and prices on Tuesday and Friday.

FRENCH FUNDS.

Table listing prices for French government securities and bonds, including 5 per cent Rentes and Bank Shares, with columns for Paris and London prices.

PRICES OF FOREIGN STOCKS.

Large table listing prices for various foreign stocks and bonds, including Brazilian Bonds, Spanish Bonds, and Dutch Bonds, with columns for daily prices from Saturday to Friday.

LATEST PRICES OF AMERICAN STOCKS

Table listing prices for American stocks such as United States Bonds, Alabama, Indiana, and New York City, including details on payables, dividends, and exchange rates.

INSURANCE COMPANIES.

Table listing insurance companies, their share values, dividends, and names, such as Albion, Alliance British and Foreign, and Commercial Union Assurance.

JOINT STOCK BANKS.

Table listing joint stock banks and their shares, including Australasia, British North American, and Commercial Union Assurance.

DOCKS.

Table listing dock companies and their shares, including Commercial, East and West India, and Southampton.















COMMERCIAL TIMES

Weekly Price Current.

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

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

Table listing various commodities such as Ashes, Cocoa, Coffee, Cotton, Drugs & Dyes, Dyewoods, Fruit, Flax, Hemp, and Jute, with their respective prices.

Table listing various commodities such as Hides, Indigo, Leather, Metals, IRON, STEEL, Molasses, Oils, Provisions, Rice, and Sago, with their respective prices.

Table listing various commodities such as Seeds, Silk, Spices, and Spirits, with their respective prices.

Table listing various commodities such as SUGAR, Tea, Tobacco, Turpentine, and Wool, with their respective prices.

STATEMENT

Of comparative Imports, Exports, and Home Consumption of the following articles from Jan. 1 to Oct. 19, 1849-50, showing the stock on hand on Oct. 19 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.

SUGAR. Table with columns for Imported and Dutypaid (1849, 1850) and Stock (1849, 1850). Rows include British Plantation (West India, East India, Mauritius, Foreign) and Foreign Sugar (Cheribon, Siam, & Manilla, Havana, Porto Rico, Brazil).

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

MOLASSES. Table with columns for Imported and Dutypaid (1849, 1850) and Stock (1849, 1850). Rows include West India.

RUM. Table with columns for Imported and Exported (1849, 1850) and Home Consump. and Stock (1849, 1850). Rows include West India, East India, Foreign.

COCOA.—Cwts. Table with columns for Br. Plant and Foreign (1849, 1850). Rows include Br. Plant, Foreign.

COFFEE.—Cwts. Table with columns for Br. Plant and Foreign (1849, 1850). Rows include Br. Plant, Ceylon, Total BP, Mocha, Foreign EI, Malabar, St Domingo, Hav. & P Ric, Brazil, African, Total For, Grand tot.

RICE. Table with columns for British EI and Foreign EI (Tons). Rows include British EI, Foreign EI, Total.

PEPPER. Table with columns for White and Black (Bags). Rows include White, Black.

NUTMEGS. Table with columns for Do. Wild, CAS. LIG., CINNAMON (Pkgs). Rows include Do. Wild, CAS. LIG., CINNAMON.

PIMENTO. Table with columns for (bags). Rows include (bags).

Raw Materials, Dye Stuffs, &c.

COCHINEAL, LAC DYE, LOGWOOD, FUSTIC. Table with columns for Serons and chests (1849, 1850). Rows include COCHINEAL, LAC DYE, LOGWOOD, FUSTIC.

INDIGO.

East India, Spanish. Table with columns for chests and serons (1849, 1850). Rows include East India, Spanish.

SALTPETRE.

Nitrate of Potass, Soda. Table with columns for tons (1849, 1850). Rows include Nitrate of Potass, Soda.

COTTON.

American, Brazil, East India, Liverpl., all kinds. Table with columns for bags (1849, 1850). Rows include American, Brazil, East India, Liverpl., all kinds, Total.

The Railway Monitor.

EPITOME OF RAILWAY NEWS.

SOUTH-EASTERN.—This company's line from Ashford to Hastings and St Leonards, 28 miles, completing the coast communication throughout Kent, is now ready for opening...

HEREFORD AND GLOUCESTER.—A numerous meeting merchants and others interested in the establishment of railway communication between Hereford and Gloucester, via Ross, has just been held at Hereford...

GLASGOW, DUMFRIES, AND CARLISLE.—It was expected that the remaining portion of this line would be opened to Carlisle for public traffic early this week...

GREAT NORTHERN.—This company's branch line from Hitchin to Royston, about 13 miles in length, was opened for public traffic on Monday...

RAILWAY SHARE MARKET.

LONDON.

MONDAY, Oct. 21.—The railway share market was steady, and although no great amount of business occurred, quotations were generally regarded as being firmly supported.

TUESDAY, Oct. 22.—The railway share market continues on the average fairly maintained, considering the decrease of speculative business.

WEDNESDAY, Oct. 23.—Railway shares have not been quite so well supported to-day, the state of the weather having prevented the full activity of business.

THURSDAY, Oct. 24.—The railway share market suffered to-day through the decline in consols, and prices up to the close of business showed an extremely heavy appearance.

FRIDAY, Oct. 25.—Railway shares have been lower again, and the decline extends to both the home and foreign lines.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE RAILWAYS AND THE GREAT EXHIBITION OF 1851.—A meeting of representatives of the principal railways was held last week in London...

A DISEASE, somewhat akin to that which has overtaken the potatoes, is manifesting itself strongly amongst the young woods in Roxburghshire...

PROFESSIONAL REMUNERATION.—The following new provision respecting "professional remuneration" in the County Courts, which is about to come into force, appears in the new act extending the jurisdiction to 50l...

THE SUBMARINE TELEGRAPH.—Messrs Fox and Henderson, the contractors for the Great Exhibition Building, have been declared contractors for making the wire rope of the electric telegraph to be laid down between England and France.

The Economist's Railway Share List.

The highest prices of the day are given.

Main table listing railway shares with columns for No. of shares, Amount paid up, Name of Company, London (M. F.), and various share details.

OFFICIAL RAILWAY TRAFFIC RETURNS.

Table of railway traffic returns with columns for Capital and Loan, Dividend per cent., Name of Railway, Week ending, Receipts (Passengers, Merchandise, Total), Traffic per mile, and Miles open in 1850 and 1849.

STATEMENT

Of comparative Imports, Exports, and Home Consumption of the following articles from Jan. 1 to Oct. 19, 1849-50, showing the stock on hand on Oct. 19 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: Imported, Duty paid, Stock. Rows: British Plantation, West India, East India, Mauritius, Foreign, Foreign Sugar, Oheribon, 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. Table with columns: Imported, Duty paid, Stock. Row: West India.

RUM. Table with columns: Imported, Exported, Home Consump., Stock. Rows: West India, East India, Foreign.

COCOA.—Cwts. Table with columns: Br. Plant., Foreign.

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

RICE. Table with columns: British EI., Foreign EI., Total, PEPPER (White, Black), NUTMEGS (Do. Wild, CAS. LIG., CINNAMON), PIMENTO.

Raw Materials, Dye Stuffs, &c. Table with columns: 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.

EPITOME OF RAILWAY NEWS.

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HEREFORD AND GLOUCESTER.—A numerous meeting merchants and others interested in the establishment of railway communication between Hereford and Gloucester, via Ross, has just been held at Hereford, Mr Prosser, M.P., in the chair...

GLASGOW, DUMFRIES, AND CARLISLE.—It was expected that the remaining portion of this line would be opened to Carlisle for public traffic early this week...

GREAT NORTHERN.—This company's branch line from Hitchin to Royston, about 13 miles in length, was opened for public traffic on Monday. It is intended to run three trains each way on week days...

RAILWAY SHARE MARKET.

LONDON. MONDAY, Oct. 21.—The railway share market was steady, and although no great amount of business occurred, quotations were generally regarded as being firmly supported. TUESDAY, Oct. 22.—The railway share market continues on the average fairly maintained...

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE RAILWAYS AND THE GREAT EXHIBITION OF 1851.—A meeting of representatives of the principal railways was held last week in London, at which it was provisionally agreed, that articles, certified by a local committee as intended for the Exhibition of 1851, shall be conveyed at half the ordinary rate; also, that parties clubbing their contributions shall be conveyed to town and back for one third-class parliamentary fare, under deduction of a per centage of mileage, according to distance.—Manchester Guardian. A DISEASE, somewhat akin to that which has overtaken the potatoes, is manifesting itself strongly amongst the young woods in Roxburghshire. The larches are dying fast, and other descriptions also. In the Duke of Buccleugh's plantations in Teviotdale, Eskdale, and Ewes, the havoc is very great, threatening to destroy many woodlands altogether. PROFESSIONAL REMUNERATION.—The following new provision respecting "professional remuneration" in the County Courts, which is about to come into force, appears in the new act extending the jurisdiction to 50l:—"And be it enacted that the fees to be taken by barristers-at-law and attorneys practising in the said courts, in cases brought within the jurisdiction given by this act, shall be as follows:—An attorney shall be entitled to have or recover a sum not exceeding 1l 10s for his fees and costs where the debt or demand claimed in any plaint in covenant, debt, detinue, or assumpsit, shall not exceed 35s; or 2l in any other cause within the jurisdiction given by this act; and in no case shall any fee exceeding 2l 6s 6d be allowed for employing a barrister as counsel in the cause, and the expense of employing a barrister or an attorney either by plaintiff or defendant shall not be allowed on taxation of costs unless by order of the judge, and the judges of the said courts respectively shall from time to time determine in what cases such expenses shall be allowed."

The Economist's Railway Share List.

The highest prices of the day are given.

Main table listing railway shares with columns for No. of shares, Amount paid up, Name of Company, London (M. F.), and various share details.

OFFICIAL RAILWAY TRAFFIC RETURNS.

Table of railway traffic returns including columns for Capital and Loan, Amount expended, Average cost, Dividend per cent., Name of Railway, Week ending, Receipts (Passengers, Merchandise, Total), Same week 1849, Traffic per mile per week, and Miles open in 1850 and 1849.

Postage of Foreign Letters.

Table detailing postage rates for foreign letters from London, Liverpool, and Falmouth, listing various countries and their respective rates.

THE ECONOMIST

Table listing countries and territories where THE ECONOMIST can be forwarded, including India, the West Indies, and various European nations.

DEAFNESS and DEFECTIVE VISION RELIEVED.—Patronised by their Majesties the Queen Dowager and the King of Hanover, their Graces the Duchess of Hamilton, the Dowager Duchess of Bedford, the Archbishops of Canterbury, York, and Dublin, the Dukes of Devonshire, Norfolk, Argyle, Marlborough, and Manchester, Bishops of Exeter, Lincoln, Cork, Kilmore, and Kildare.—The ORGANIC VIBRATOR, an extraordinary, powerful, small, newly-invented instrument, for deafness, entirely different from all others, to surpass anything of the kind that has been or probably ever can be produced; it is modelled to the ear, so that it rests within, without projecting; being of the same colour as the skin, is not perceptible. It enables deaf persons to enjoy general conversation, to hear distinctly at church, and at public assemblies. The unpleasant sensation of singing noises in the ears is entirely removed, and it affords all the assistance that possibly could be desired. Invaluable newly-invented Spectacles. The most powerful Telescopes, Opera, and Race Glasses. Also a very small powerful waistcoat Pocket Glass, only the size of a walnut, to discern minute objects at the distance of from four to five miles.—S. and B. SOLOMONS, Aurists and Opticians, 39 Abchurch Lane, Piccadilly, opposite the York Hotel.

TO PARENTS and GUARDIANS.—A PORTION of the Extensive Premises in Regent Street, occupied by Messrs NICOLL, will in future be devoted to the production of BOYS' and YOUTHS' CLOTHING, such to exhibit unusual good taste, style, and finish, besides having a further recommendation in their durability and very moderate cost.

College Caps and Gowns; with every kind of Garment calculated for pleasure, duties, or exercise, and such as are worn by Young Gentlemen at the Colleges and Great Public Schools. These are always ready to be met with at the Warehouses of H. J. and D. NICOLL, Merchant Clothiers, Patent Patentees, and Manufacturers of Cloth, Regent Street (from 114 to 120 inclusive), and 22 Cornhill.

CAUTION.—Many have assumed the use of the word 'PALEOT', but Messrs NICOLL are the Sole Patentees of the design and material (in Winter or Summer Substances) employed in the manufacture of this inexpensive and gentlemanly Article of Costume.

HUBBUCK'S PATENT WHITE ZINC PAINT.—ANNOUNCEMENT.

The White Paint made from Zinc was pronounced by scientific men in the last century to be the most beautiful of all White Paints, and unchangeable for hundreds of years. Experience has justified these commendations, and conclusively established its superiority over White Lead and every other White Paint hitherto known. The cost at that period being several shillings per pound, the use has been restricted to Artists, under the name of Permanent White. The Proprietors claim the merit of removing this obstacle to its general adoption.

For MARINE USES it possesses the following advantages:—It is whiter than any other Paint, and retains this whiteness for years, unaffected by bilge-water, or noxious vapours from cargo. The White Paint in the hold of a ship after discharging a sugar cargo is found to be as white as the year before when newly painted. 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. Moreover, by virtue of its galvanic action on iron, it enters the pores, and forms an amalgam of the two metals, which protects the iron from rust, decay, or incrustation.

For the GENERAL PURPOSES of the Decorative Painter, the "White Zinc Paint" has been found unparalleled in whiteness, clearness of colour, durability, and beauty of texture.

For artistic works in general, this material possesses advantages unattainable by any other paint. It becomes so hard as to admit of polishing equal to the finest coach paneling, without the aid of varnish.

For SANITARY PURPOSES the "White Zinc Paint" is valuable, not only from its being totally free from every ingredient injurious to health, but from its combining chemical qualities, which render it a powerful corrective where contagious diseases have prevailed, Furniture or Buildings painted with it are at once disinfected. Paralysis and Painter's Cholic are avoided by its use, as well as similar results to the occupants of newly-painted rooms. Apartments may be immediately occupied without injury to the health of children or the most delicate constitution.

It becomes cheaper than the common paint from its spreading over a much larger surface. 2 cwt of this paint covers as much as is usually covered by 3 cwt of white lead.

Each cask is stamped with the name "Hubbuck, London.—Patent," as the style of the Manufacturers. A Circular with full particulars may be had of the principal Dealers in Paint, and of the Manufacturers THOMAS HUBBUCK and SON, Colour Works, opposite the London Docks, and at the office of the "Artisan," 69 Cornhill, where also specimens of the paint may be seen.

Just published, Sixth Edition, price 1s 6d revised and corrected.

THE STUDENT'S SELF-INSTRUCTING FRENCH GRAMMAR, consisting of Twelve Progressive Lessons, wherein the Parts of Speech are Exemplified in Conversational Phrases, Fables, Anecdotes, and Bons Mots, with Literal Translations, are also introduced. By D. M. AIRD, Professor of French, Author of "Sketches in France," &c. &c.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS. "Mr. Aird's object in publishing this grammar is to simplify to the English the study of the French language. He has not failed in his endeavour. He has begun at the beginning, and instead of taking so much of the elementary truths as are already known, he commences with the pronunciation of the alphabet, and leads the student gently over the succeeding stages. The grammar seems altogether well adapted for young beginners in the study of this polite language, and particularly for those who, from necessity or choice, are their own instructors."—Leeds Times.

"We have never seen an elementary work of this nature better worth its name. Without affecting novelty, the author attains simplicity and regularity of progress. We cordially recommend this little guide."—The Atlas.

"The Student's Self-instructing French Grammar is a practical and comprehensive little elementary work, calculated to answer every purpose required in imparting the first rudiments of the French language. Its chief feature is the careful avoidance of long and useless rules, and numerous exceptions in pronunciation and construction, which too frequently embarrass the beginner, and render that a task which would otherwise become an agreeable exercise. The short lessons with literal translations, are well adapted to assist the learner in acquiring the idiom of the language."—Court Journal.

"This is a cheap and excellent little work, and to those desirous of acquiring a knowledge of the French language with expedition, correctness, and ease, it supplies a much-wanted desideratum, and that, too, at a minimum cost."—Mona's Herald.

"Such a guide must ultimately find its way into the schoolrooms of all teachers who have their pupils' progress at heart, for in one month, we candidly admit, as much might be learnt through its medium as in three by means of those grammars whose intricate rules, with innumerable exceptions, tend to create a distaste for the language. We cordially recommend it."—Mirror of Literature.

"A fifth edition of this most useful little work has been just published. It has undergone many important alterations and additions, each calculated, to a still greater extent than has been achieved already, to simplify the study of the French language. Having already spoken of the merits of former editions, it remains for us only now to say that we are glad it has been so favourably received by the public. It is undoubtedly the best elementary work of the kind which has ever been published."—Times.

"One of the best little elementary works that has ever come within our notice. The author begins with the alphabet and leads the pupil through the French language with the greatest ease. Short exercises are introduced to aid the pupil in forming sentences; and the fables, anecdotes, and bons mots, which are dispersed through the work, are calculated to relieve the mind of the pupil, and to familiarize him with the constructions and idioms of the French language."—Reformers' Gazette.

"We have examined the French Grammar, by Mr. Aird, French Master at the Greek-street Academy, and have no hesitation in stating that it is one of the most useful elementary works that have yet appeared. It is written with great conciseness, and the useless rules and exceptions which abound in grammars in general are entirely omitted. The work consists of twelve progressive lessons, wherein the parts of speech are exemplified in conversational phrases; and fables, anecdotes, and bons mots are introduced, with a translation and pronunciation."—London Saturday Journal.

"This book is as useful in its nature as it is simple in its plan. All, indeed, that can be attained without the aid of a master is, by the use of this well-arranged little work, brought within the comprehension of the student."—Argus.

"Simplicity is the chief recommendation of an elementary work. Mr. Aird, in writing his Grammar, has kept this in view for, of the many books that are weekly issued from the press purporting to facilitate the student's progress in attaining a knowledge of the French language, we have not perused one that is so free from useless rules, so clear, so comprehensive, as the valuable little work now before us. It consists of twelve progressive lessons, in which the parts of speech are exemplified by conversational phrases, with fables and anecdotes, translated literally, which are admirably calculated to give the learner an idea of the construction of the French language."—New Monthly.

Also, by the same Author, price 1s. 6d. HOW TO SPEAK AND WRITE FRENCH CORRECTLY, comprising Six Progressive Lessons, in which the Difficulties of the French Language are elucidated by explicit Rules, and exemplified by useful Phrases.

"He who wishes to speak and write French correctly ought to possess this useful work. The various idioms and difficulties are elucidated by explicit rules, exemplified by useful phrases."—Bell's Life.

Just Published, price 1s. 6d., by the same Author. A SELF-INSTRUCTING LATIN GRAMMAR.—Comprising all the Facts and Principles of the Accidence necessary for reading the Ancient Roman Authors; consisting of Twelve Progressive Lessons in which Easy Sentences, Fables, &c., with Literal Translations, are introduced; also a TRANSLATOR'S GUIDE.

London: Simpkin, Marshall, and Co.; and J. Aird, 170 Fleet Street; sent post free on receipt of any-four postage stamps.